E. Stewart

Journal of a Voyage to Greenland

performed in the

Whaler Ship

by Wm. Scoresby

1814

810

March 23 [illegible] 1 [illegible]
[illegible] 30 [illegible]
May 9 [illegible] 31 [illegible]
30
31
9
140.

Log book
Log water
30th

Charles Steward
H C S Paris

Mss March 4th 1816.

Charles Steward
Greenland Seas
1814

Peter Fisher

Journal of a voyage, to the coasts of Spitzbergen, by Charles Steward
in captain of the Estacea of the Northern Seas: per-
formed during the year 1814, in the Ship Esk,
of Whitby. William Goldsby Junr. Commander

Kept by Charles Steward.

Charles Stewart's Remarks on board the Esk bound for Spitzbergen.

In the month of February 1814 the Esk burthen 356 tons was taken up by her owners (Messrs Fothergill & Broderick) to make her second voyage to Spitzbergen, on the Whale fishery. She was but 7 years old; a very strong & handsomely built vessel; at present she has but her lower masts standing; having been laid up since her voyage to Greenland last year. She was therefore removed from their dock directly opposite on the South side of the river (where deep water) and there to refit.

The Esk is removed.

Esk refitting

This operation consisted of entirely rigging her; as she was rather leaden at sea. 12 tons of iron ballast were stowed away on each side the kelson: 3 tiers of blubber casks, each containing about 350 gallons. were stowed from the iron to the ~~upper~~ lower deck beams: the lower and some of the 2nd tier were filled with water: More casks were taken for filling blubber, but were in pieces, and were stowed in the gun room, or some other convenient place, in order that between decks might be clear for boats and other fishing gear. The stores chiefly consisted in

Esk's Stores

7 whale boats; 1 cable anchor; 2 floating anchors; 2 harpoons: 2 gun harpoons; 2 lances; and all sorts of fishing materials; 120 whale lines, and as many fore-gangers:

Armed.

She was armed with 10 guns. 8, 18lbs carronades, and 2 long 9lbs. our probitions consisted of 60 months

Provisions

support for 50 seamen. including 5 tons of bread; 3 tons beef & pork. The crew consisted of. the Commander,

crew.

Surgeon; 6 harpooners; 1 Steward; 1 Steeman; 6 cox-

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Remarks onboard the Esk bound for Spitzbergen.

Esk's crew.

wains, as rather boat Steerers, viz the Second Mate & two managers; Armourer; Boatswain; Gunner; Carpenter; Blacksmith; Cooper; Cook and their respective mates; and seamen, making in all a comp of 54 Men and the Steward, two, of the fishing boats were lashed between decks: all the harpoons, lances and flenching knives were kept in a chest between decks. the whale lines in the gun-room.

Unsuccessful attempt made to move her.

By Sunday the 20th of March, all was in readiness for sea; in the afternoon all hands attended twice. this was the first opportunity of getting out these spring tides. after moving about two shits length, the tide failed us. Efforts were renewed every high water, but in vain until,

The clears the harbour.

Wind N.W.

Wednesday the 23rd. March. when by the aide of the evening tide, we unmoored ship, warped through bridge, and got out to sea, crowds of spectators were assembled on the pier, and we were greeted with the usual hurrahs. When out, we tacked twice to shew our owners how the ships looked at sea, the remaining pilot boat then left us, and we stood out on our intended course (N.N.E) for the Shetland islands. The wind was moderate, with cloudy weather. The thermometer stood at 45°. At night fresh breezes of wind. the ship going about 6 or 7 knots.

Wind S.E.

April 24th. Light winds and cloudy weather, in the morning I saw the Cheviot Hills from the mast h.d. but indistinctly, but I should not

have supposed them to have been land at all, they resembled a white cloud rising from the horizon- during day several coasters were in sight, bound for their various ports; one for a far more distant land. Three gulls seen —

Long. 00°.. 48 W.
Lat. 55°.. 46'.41"

April 25th. Sudden squalls of wind and variable during most of the day, but towards night a steady wind from South West. Gulls seen. Rain — Thermometer at noon at 42°.

Lat - 57°.33'
Long - 5°0'W.
Wind S.W.

April 26th. In the morning fresh winds and cloudy weather. two sail in sight, to all appearances Whalers, bound on the same course as ourselves. At 3 P.M. Fair Isle ahead. and Sumborough head on the Larboard bow. At noon thermometer at 40°. In the afternoon it came on to blow very hard from S.W. ward. Obliged to take in all the small sails and close reef the top- sails. at 6 abeast of this most dreary looking island (Foul). the weather was also very Dark & thick; it was not thought prudent to attempt the navigation of the islands, and indeed all commanders never attempt it at night: we therefore layed two, about half way between Foul Isle and Shetland. At mid- night, to our intense surprise we found ourselves set, evidently by some unknown current, into a bay formed of rocks; to the S.W. of Sumborough head. The ship was now in the most eminent danger of be- ing lost; all hands were called; and fortunately the

Wind South-

Madeland.

Lat. 58°.56'.N
Long. 00.. 54 W.

Navigation Dangerous

Remarkable & dangerous circumstance.

Remarks on board the Esk bound for Spitzbergen

Fortunately escaped.

succeeded in weighing, although the sea was running very high; we then stood off to the westward, but in a few hours we were set again to the S.E ward exactly into the same place, where we had previously lyed to; this must therefore be occationed by the tide: yet it is very extraordinary, as the tides on the East & south east coasts of Shetland, are always accounted to be so very slack.

occationed by the tide!

April 27th Bore in for Brassa sound, with fresh breezes & clear weather: we came to our anchor at 12. upon our arrival there we were informed that close in with the land a tide runs N.W & S.E. at the rate of seven or eight knots per hour; our misfortune therefore was easily accounted for. Capt Sand's repaired almost immediately on board the Stirmuse where we were most liberally entertained by its hospitable commander: in company with Dr Edmonstone. Mr Ross. and Mr Sinclair, gentlemen of this place. Capt Scoresby brought a newspaper containing the information of Bordeaux being captured by our generalissimo in Spain. They seemed highly gratified with it. indeed the Doctor who is a very great politician was enraptured. In the afternoon we all went ashore together: what a miserable dreary aspect it afforded! This did not much prepossess me in favour of its being quite such a pleasant place as I had

Anchored in Brassa sound.

misfortune accounted for.

Joyfull reception of an Engl. with newspaper.

Landed.

Remarks on board the Esk lying in Brassa Sd.

heard. We travelled up a hop. very much incumbered with
grassy stone. until we reached the environs of the capital
of the islands. On the turnpike there appeared no ves-
tige of carriages of any description, larger than the wheel-
barrow, and of that kind there are very few., most of
them being of the hand kind carried by two persons.
We soon arrived in the town of Lerwick, which pre-
sented to me a very curious but not a disagreea-
ble appearance. The Fort was the first object which
attracted my notice. This is a very well fortified
place; in which are stationed a garrison of a few
Highland soldiers, under the command of Major —
Forbes. second in command Captain M'Donald. It
stands on the east side of the town; there are
in it 16 guns, between which and the various com-
partments is a solid mass of the grassy stone for-
ming a rock 20 feet high; The magazine and house
are therefore very well protected. From the fort
we entered the town; the houses, were built of
the grassy stone plastered over very clumsily,
about two stories high: the windows very small;
and the walls immensely thick: The streets are
very narrow; paved with flags stone cut from the
grassy. in a very dirty condition, although very dry
clean weather. We parted with our friends and went

Arrived in Lerwick.

The Fort.

to call on Mr. Ogilvy, a particular friend of Captain Scarth's, where we spent most of the night: I was much pleased with the unaffected hospitality with which he received us into his house; his family, his wife particularly, was very well known to some of ~~my~~ Norfolk people. Particularly to Sr. Richard Beddingfield, at a late hour we parted, and came onboard. I had now an opportunity of seeing the inside of a Shetland house. The rooms in general resemble much a partition in a castle; on account of the thickness of the walls; the smallness of the windows; the lowness of the rooms; the barenes of the walls; and the general appearance. All this day we had had very fresh breezes from the southward.

Hospitably entertained in Lerwick.

Shetland houses.

March 28th A continuance of said gales from the southward. Capt. S. had long wished for an opportunity of trying his barges sailing; he called one be fore breakfast. The boat was rigged with two table sails and manned, we hoisted her: she sailed most delightfully. She was very stiff: I do not know a more convenient & agreable piece of water for boat sailing than Brassa-Sound. The land contains high on each side: but not so much as

Boat sailing

in any way to cause any eddy of the wind by it. The barge's crew were composed of the best seamen in the ship: all dressed in their proper uniform viz: glazed hats and blue jackets & trowsers: as we approached the shore, the people eyed us much. This evening was spent as the preceding one at Mr Ogilvy's with the greatest pleasure. During this Day many Brown gulls, and small birds were seen. Thermometer 44°.

Barge's crew.

March 29th. A continuation of stony gales from the southward all day. We took in about 100 tons more water, for ballast, as that was our chief reason of putting into Brassa. To day we had the pleasure of the company of Capt Marshall of the Letters of Hull. Thermometer 44°.

Taking in water.

March 30th In the morning, the Surgeon, 2nd Mate and myself, set out on an excursion on the Mainland of Shetland. The land rises very much from the sea; the tops of the mountains are almost constantly immersed in the clouds; about this time of the year at these Islands, they experience a great deal of wet stormy weather. As I had heard from the men onboard the miserable State in which the poor of this place live, I determined to visit some of them. We accordingly entered one of their houses, without ceremony. This house was about 6 feet high; thatched with barley & oat straw:

Landed on an excursion.

Wet weather at Shetland.

well secured by lathings of thin wood from the lof-
of the roof, to the lower part of the gable. The en-
trance was attended by a deal of inconvenience, as
the mud, mire & all sorts of filth was excessive,
but thro which it was necessary to pass previous
to getting to the door. This door was 3½ feet high, the
only hole of any discription which could emit the
smoke, and present some current of air in order
to breathe. A fire was burning on the ground at one
corner of the building, the walls were as thick with
smoke as any chimney. I cannot conceive how
these mortals can exist when the door is shut,
for even when it was open, so much did the smoke
incommode me, that I was obliged to make my ex-
it almost as soon as I went in. There were
several men and women sitting round the fire, ap-
parently very happy. Bin Lenglon lighted his pipe, &
very composedly joined in the conversation. Some
food was preparing, of which they begged us to par-
take; but this I begged to be excused. In an adjoin-
ing apartment, made by a few reeds, were 2 or
3 beds, but such I never should have supposed
them to have been, had I not been told so: mere-
ly a piece of old board covered with a sheep skin.
The house itself was built of the grany stone,

Shetland houses

but without any kind of plaister; so that the wind rushed in between the stones very piercingly in cold weather. The inhabitants were extremely dirty, barefooted, and indeed badly clothed. Altogether, it presented such a spectacle as I could hardly have conceived, or any other Englishman. especially if he had been used to home. I have seen the poor Canucks in Russia, but I really hardly think them superior to the Shetland ones. She readily with us concerning Inhabitants
our wants for peace &c.

We left them & proceeded onward up the sound. a most delightful view of the from which we had a most shipes therein. We hauled N.Westward. almost across the sound until we came to another harbour, but a very small one: it formed a very Harbour.
beautiful one; the entrance of it had a particular grand appearance. the sea was dashing most furiously against some rocks which obstructed its passage. the hills rose to an immense height on each side. this range of hills stretches along from the N. to S.ward, and it took down in mark many of the bays and shoals of the place. we arrived at the source of this river, where were standing many fishermans huts; here we got onto the road, or rather

way. between Lerwick & Scalloway, a town on the South
west side of the mainland; and made the best of our
way, to the Esk again - In going along this road, we
met a great many people, men chiefly, going to join
their respective ships at Lerwick; I was much sup-
prised to see them carry their immense sea chests
on their shoulders, with great facility: many of them
had their wives accompanying them, who, as the men,
were walking bare-footed; although this road is to
uneven & rocky. This custom of walking bare footed,
I understand is also practised by the higher class
of people, almost throughout the Highlands of Scotland.
On Sundays they dress themselves themselves smartly,
viz: when they are walking about publickly. for
whilst sitting in their own houses they wear their
common clothes; but when they go out, (for in-
stance, going to kirk) they take off their stockings &
shoes, carry them in their hands. when they come
near the kirk, they go to some puddee of water, or
any other convenient place, and wash their feet,
which by travelling so far become thoroughly dirty,
put on their stockings & shoes, and by the means
cut a very respectable appearance, in that respect.

Height of the Shetland men

Extraordinary custom of the Shetland people.

This custom is practised particularly by the wo-
men. During this excursion, I saw many of their
cattle. An abundance of Ponies, and of a most
beautiful description. They seemed to run e-

Their cattle

Remarks onboard the Esk in Brassa Sd

Shetland cattle.

but perfectly mild. If I had had any convenient means, I certainly would have brought one over to England. The sheep are small; the wool particularly fine; the mutton is not bad, in general poor. They are of different colours: white, black, lead colour; and pye bald. These animals in winter feed chiefly on sea-weed which they gather from the sea shore at low-water. The oxen & cows are small, very beautiful in stature and colour. Their horns are short, and they are by no means wild as the ponies & sheep. The pigs are much like those of England. The poultry are in general fine, the eggs are a good size, but taste very smoky, which most likely proceeds from their dwelling with the people in their houses. The chief birds are the Wild geese, wild duck: raven. brown gull; Loom; An abundance of fish chiefly shell fish. Oysters here are most excellent and exceedingly cheap. There are cockell, limpets, and other rock fish. Of the latter sort there are Cod. Ling. Turk and others of less note. After enquiring a little about the town I returned onboard highly gratified with what had passed. The Shetland people are in general well made men, of a middle stature; of a swarthy complexion; and active in the hour of danger, though not very much to be fore: Self-interest & craft are the

Fish.

Character of Shetland men.

predominating features of the mind: but still they are very hospitable: they are very fond of English manufactured goods: indeed they will not take money for their common goods, but articles of England: they are sure to demand an immense deal more than the value of their goods and sometimes when they are alongside an English vessel are excessively troublesome and obstinate. The women and girls are cheerfull, lively, gay, and interesting: the children lively and active. The general appearance of the shaw land is mountainous and barren. The land near the Character of Shetland men.

General appearance of the country.

shore is much incorporated with stone but not so a little higher up. it is of a black Leary nature and from the red colour of the small but numerous rills of water, and the nature of the appearance of the minerals altogether; I should be strongly inclined to think there is much iron beneath. Quantities of copper I understand have been found in the west of the country. No bees are to be seen upon this island, Gardens in gardens, which are not very numerous. The chief produce is a very rank sort of grass, a great quantity of ling grows also. and various sorts of weeds. Oats: Barley: Potatoes: cabbages:

Remarks onboard the Est in Brassa sound

and other vegetables are grown; but are by no means plentifull.

another excursion.

March 31st. Landed again on the island of Brassa, with the second mate & surgeon, for the purpose of making another excursion. We intended going entirely across this island, which is about 5 miles distant, and if pattible to cross over to the isle of Nots, to see the famous basket suspended between 2 immense high rocks, for the purpose of hauthauting cattle &c. thither. As we passed over ~~the land~~, I had an opportunity of seeing the people till their land. This is commonly performed by the women & children, the men being too indolent. Four oxen were yoked with a curious contrivance of a plough; the two innermost and two outermost together. A lad led them and a woman assisted at the tail of the plough. Most women were much employed in turning up the ground with spades. The land on this island is much superior to that on the mainland; more of it is cultivated; and the grain comes to a greater state of perfection. Like it is very mountainous. We travelled across it, to

Manner of cultivating the land.

Brassa the superior to the Mantaina

Remarks onboard the Est in Pretta Nowa

the sea. Here we intended staying a visit to some old friends of my companions. As we were approaching their dwelling, we were suddenly saluted by an old woman, dressed in a red jacket, without the only garment she had on her: quite bare footed, and even bare leggs. She recognised us immediately; and ran towards us with joy. Although she knew nothing about me, she took me by the hand, and kissed me most violently into her filthy hovel; this made Pidgeon Williams. I was not exactly pleased with her treatment towards me; but at the same time, I admired in nature as I felt triumphed my heart most immensely against the Savages, top of the hole of our entrance, although I stooped as low as I could; I stumbled over sheep, pigs, dogs, cats, and all sorts of animals and was nearly bitten by a Cow, all of which were feeding in the pantry into which she threw us. This haunt was certainly larger than any of the Shetland poor haunts, I had previously seen. It was 2 stones high! Each Story almost 6 feet high: at least the lower one was. I cannot say much for the upper, as it was

Salutation of Meggy.

Inconveniences attending the entrance of the haunts.

merely the gable of the building. We were most heartily welcomed by a man inside, the master of the domain I suppose. The house was horridly dark & smoky of course; in fact so dark, that it occasioned the aforementioned mistake and misfortune with the animals. They brought us out something to eat, and as we were uncommonly hungry, we thankfully partook of it. Luckily it was dark: I could hardly see my food as my companions of the table ate, else I should not have made so good a meal as I did. They gave us plenty of good eggs & baby & oat bread. Some of the bread I brought away with me for curiosity sake. I also bought a pair of woollen stockings, very cheap. In their manufacture the Shetland people excel; I cared with facility draw these stockings thro' a finger ring, yet they were of a great size. The surgeon gave them some medicine for which they were very thankful. I took a walk down to the sea side, with a lad to show me about. I was struck with the grandeur of the scene; the sea dashing most furiously against an immense Light rock; on the

The house very dark.

Remarks onboard the Esk in Brassa Sound

summit of which stood a pathemans end. This
rock was upon examination very curious. At
Antique cavern a little height from the ground, were excavated
several holes, which led into a cavern beneath
the rock; the cavern was matt artfully contri-
ved: well secured inside: it led to a great
distance underground. It would appear from
the natives accounts that this cavern was for-
med some ~~time~~ centurys ago: for the purpose
of affording safety to these persecuted people, du-
ring the invasion of the Danes. On the opotite
side of the water was the ille of Noss, the most
fertile of that cluster; I was prevented crossing over
on account of the tremendous sea, which was run-
ning. I returned to the house and found our
host & hostess clad in their very best garments-
he took tea; and after many mutual congra-
tulations, well wishes &c. we took leave of them-
we had not got far before the old woman, came
running after us; she could not think of let-
ting us, without carrying our basket for us; which
she did the whole way over the island. She
then left us and returned home. we called
at many houses on comming home; at

unwillingness of the Esk ob-
liged to put.

Remarks onboard the Esk in Brassa Sound.

each I was much gratified. At one I saw the
kind of mill used here for grinding corn.
Mills. It merely consisted of two large flat stones, between
which they grind, by turning one round with
their own hands.

April 1st. Dr Edmonston. Capt Munroe of the
Visit from Gentlemen on Shore. Blasiana, and other gentlemen. paid a visit to the
Esk: we gave them a sail in the barge; at which
they were highly gratified; whilst they were on-
board, great merriment was carried on upon
decks, by the sailors, dancing, music &c. In the
evening went ashore and spent our time very
pleasantly with Mr Spilsby. At night we were
Fighting. witnessed to a bloody combat between the Esk's
Spitchcocks and the Spectacles of the Fountain
of Lynn. It created a general confusion in the
town: but was at last quelled, by some Regt.
Land Soldiers being called out. All this seemed
to have been excited by the enmity, which the
Fountain as well as many other ships in the
fleet, had towards the Esk.

April 2nd. In the morning prepared for
getting under weigh, but the wind coming
round from the North. eastward, we were obli-

yea to give it up. Went onshore and spent the rest of the day at Mr Ogilvys.

went to kirk

April 3rd. In the morning being Sunday, one went onshore to Kirk, and heard a very excellent sermon from Revd — the minister. The Kirk, like most other buildings in Lerwick, is of a clumsy construction; filthy in the inside; and void of light. The hairy, sleepy-headed clerk is fit to deafen one with his roaring ejaculations which he gives out whilst singing, in the real Scotch blarney, to the utmost satisfaction of himself. Spent this rainy day with Mr Ogilvy.

clerk—

April 4th. In the morning light airs and clear weather; thermometer at 45°. Cleared got under weigh with three sheets from the Esk. About 9 A.M. got under sail with almost all the fleet, and proceeded up the north entry of the sound. An ugly sea running, after the late gale. At night off Balta sound. Saw a ship come out; thought her to be the Henrietta of Whitby who had put to sea in the late gale of wind. At midnight lost sight of the land.

The Esk leaves Balta sound.

April 5th. Being now landy at sea, one began to think about the fishery. The first job done was

Making the Harpoons.

making the harpoons. viz; concealing the castaways and thiefs names, in some particular part of the Instrument, so that if any other thiefs crew should strike the fish, that had one of our harpoons in, we might have our claim. The toe-pieces were placed onto the harpoons; pieces of rope about 6 or 8 fathoms long, was wound the whole length were made fast: and the handles were placed into the toes of the instrument. Many Fulmars were seen - I could not ascertain any particular way of direction of their flying. An unfortunate Bullfinch was seen hovering about the ships, but would not suffer itself to be taken. A Norwegian Crow was caught in the main-top, by one of the men. At noon the Thermometer stood at 45°.

Lat. 62°.13'
Long. 0°.19'W.

April 6th. In the morning a heavy sea & strong gale of wind came on, from the S. West. This evidently had been a strong Northerly wind blowing in this latitude, as the sea came from that quarter. Several Fulmars seen. Thermometer by a mean of observations at 46°. Noon.

Lat. 63°.54'
Long. 0.39 W.

April 7th. During all this day heavy gales of wind from the Southward. In the last 24 hours ran nearly 200 miles. Ship generally going at the

rate of 12 miles an hour. this day we made our entry into the Frozen Zone. upon which I gave the usual fine. we saw the same bulfinch to day, I think that we saw yesterday, but it was still too shy to be caught. It carried very hard sleet of the day, the sea was running tremendously high; but our ship was in that excellent trim, that she ships very little water. Many Fulmars seen. Thermometer at noon at 43°

Lat. 66° 53' N
Long. 0. 39 W.

April 8th. An unabated continuance of the gale. the ship going at a great rate. Many Fulmars seen during day. Thermometer at noon at 26°

Lat. 68. 39
Long. 0 - 49 W.

April 9th. The gale gradually subsided until noon; when thick weather & Snow came on. A small bird was caught to day (by seamen called cisket) I could not find its discription in any book of Natural History onboard. It resembled altogether a land bird. about the size of a Sparrow. black back. and a white breast. Towards the evening the benish of some ice was just distinguishable to the Northward. A heavy sea running, and we were nothing much to make it. that we might thereby get a little shelter. Fulmars seen -

Lat - 68°. 39'
Long. 0. 49 W.

April 10th At 6 A. M. fell in with loose bay ice; or pieces of round ice; of about 3, 4. & 5 feet

Made ice.

Birds seen.

Birth of the Sea.

Ludicrous gesture of the men

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in diameter & about 2 feet thick. There was a considerable quantity of snow on it. The pieces of ice lyed quite close one to another, but like the ship moved amongst them with a tolerable degree of facility. The cold I now began to perceive very intense; the thermometer standing at 6°. We had thus made the Weth Ice; about 60 leagues to the Eastward of the island of Jan Mayen. After reaching a few miles into it, we tacked; as an object was now to get to the Eastward, in order that we might get to the northward up the bight, which lies always in upon the west side of Spitzbergen. I observed that those birds which we had constantly seen upon the passage, & formerly did not frequent the low ice. This description of ice is in general by the Whale fishermen called pan-cake ice, because of its resemblance to that cake. As the day was extremely clear, I had a pleasing opportunity of seeing the Blink to great perfection. This was the light reflected from the ice into the clouds near the horizon, directly over it. It was of a very peculiar bright colour, and very strong. To day being Sunday, divine service was performed (agreeable to the forms of the Church of England) wherein I officiated as Clerk. In consequence of the cold, the men began to make an alteration in their clothing; which chiefly consisted in a big & large pouched hat, a jacket or two more; large trowsers; and boots. It was a most ridi-

Lat. 71° 14'
Long. 2. 46 E.

curious sight to see many of them: it was however a fine picturesque appearance. The cold seemed at first to make some effect on me; I could not keep myself at all tolerably warm in bed: my nose & toes were almost frozen off, although a constant roaring fire in the adjoining apartment, with the door open. If I poured my tea, hot from the tea pot into a saucer, it was frozen almost immediately—! Therefore was forced to make the addition of our entire covering with flannel next my skin; 3 or 4 pair of worsted stockings; 2 pair of trowsers; 2 jackets, one of them duffle; one immense pair of boots; a wig and large thick hat: and sheep-skin gloves & mittens. Had any of my relations or friends seen me this fantastical dress, with a nose as blue as a ripe cherry, much question whether they would have known me. The seamans duty now become quite of a different nature: every rope in the ship frozen; and in order to keep himself warm he must run, instead of walk the deck. As we had now reached a high northern latitude, our nights became sensibly longer. indeed as we had had so much thick and bad weather they were rendered particularly so.

Effect of the Cold.

Addition of clothing.

April 9th. Thick weather came on again,

Lat. 71°. 17 N
Long. 3. 54 E.

with calder weather. thermometer down to 2°— Being now in the ice no dead reconning was kept. Continued to ply to windward, in the best way we could, and with as much expedition as possible. Saw many Seals; a great quantity of whyne fatt seen from out the sea. this fatt whyne is some what similar to that seen in England, it cause I am not exactly acquainted with at present.—

Got the main mast up.—

Lat. 71°. 20'
Long. 0°. 2W.
Wind N. E.

April 12th In the morning the weather was extremely thick and cold: thermometer at Zero. During day, different flights of Roaches, Fulmars, Looms &c seen. Continued working to the Eastward with the wind in the am Leek. Got the crows-nest to the main topmast head. this is a sort of top, the skeleton of which is made of wood, covered with leather, with which every ship is furnished on coming to Greenland, for the more easily seeing the ice at a distance, seeing whales &c. Sight of the ice very distinct and beautiful towards North ward. In the evening got clear of the ice and stood to the southward.

Change of temperature.

Wind E. SE.
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April 13th At the early part of the morning it came on to blow very hearily from the E.S.E. The wind coming thus round to the southward caused a very sudden transition from the intense cold. the thermometer now standing at 32°. these changes of temperature are common in Greenland;

Remarks onboard the Esk in the Arctic ocean.

Lat^de 71°.30 N
Long - 1°.0 E.

During all this gale as very heavy sea was running. In the afternoon it abated, and subsided into a calm. 3 hours afterwards it blew a hard gale from the westward, directly in the opposite direction of the other. Thus in the course of 6 hours we had had two strong gales of wind, each in a contrary direction; and a variation of 32° degrees of Temperature in the atmosphere.

Change in weather - wind West-

April 14th In the morning the gale gradually subsided, until 9 A.M. when a perfect calm, and very serene weather prevailed; during which a great number of Bottle-noses made their appearance. At 11 A.M. a most furious squall came on again from S.E. ward, with showers of snow, and blew so hard we could not scarcely bear any sail on the ship: this gale continued throughout the day. These gales although so very uncertain in Greenland, were predicted without exception by the Barometer. This Barometer which we had onboard, was the one which went round the world with Captain Cook. The gales generally come on with very thick hazy weather, so that when a ship is near the ice, her situation is very dangerous as frequently it is so thick that room cannot be seen enough to veer or stay the ship. Each of these three last gales rose and subsided in the same quarter of the compass. The first in the E.S.E. The second in the E. The last in the

Variable winds

Heavy squalls & winds -

Lat. 71°. 49 N
Long - 2°. 24 E.

Truth of the Glass -

Danger when very foggy -

Remarks onboard the Esk in the Arctic Ocean

Winds contra ry to Courts.

S.E. This is a Phenomena, quite contrary to what Scoresby mentions in his history of Greenland: as he says the "storms rise in the South and subside in the North!" In no part of world have I observed this yet. Thermometer to Day at 34°. Fulmars seen.

April 15th. In the morning the wind went down but in a manner rather unlike the former ones as there were frequent squalls and calms. The weather however became quite clear. Generally before there gales a scraching was heard from the birds which were constantly flying about the ships; these birds were even flying about in the midst of the storms. The Fulmars in-deed appear to be particularly strong in this case; and also sometimes when Ships are steering these birds came very near to partake of the crang, the sea men will strike them most violently with hooks, they seem however scarcely to feel them effects, as they fly a little time, then return to their prey — In the evening the birds of the ice very clean to Nwd. Thermometer at 30°—

Production of wonder by birds.

Wind E.b.N.

Lat. 71° 04 N
Long. 8. 0 E.

Strength of the Malemuchen.

April 16th. Weather very clear in the morning, the Pink stretched from the N.W.b.N to the E.S.E. as we were sailing towards it, I observed it had a greater extent in altitude the nearer we approached it. Towards the top of it, there was a thin strata of cloud, behind it, which gave it a very beautiful

Pink of the Ice.

Wind E.N.E.

25

Lat. 71°.46'.N
Long. 3°.28.E.

Hard white clouds seen-

rex appearance: the weather was particularly fine all day; not a single cloud to be seen, except towards the Southward, where there were some of those hard white clouds, mentioned by Phipps. In the afternoon made the ice, but thought it dangerous to enter among it; we therefore continued to stand to the North Eastward. Thermometer at 20°. Many Fulmars seen.

Extraordinary fine weather.

April 17th. Delightfull fine weather throughout the day. Several sail have in sight. Performed Divine service. Thermometer at 23°. Most of the oldest Greenland-men, seemed to think they hardly ever remembered such particular fine weather on the outward-passage. An abundance of Fulmars, Kittiwakes, and Fin-fish. This fish, one of our manners tells, like all the inhabitants of the Polar regions, when plunging into the water, they made a very great noise: somewhat similar to that of a distant cannon firing.

Wind N.

Lat. 71°.45'.N.
Long. 3°.34.E.

April 18th. This day like the former was very calme, and unclouded to calm. This was an excellent opportunity for trying the adjustments and corrections of my sextant, which I had long wished for: and untill now could not: as the weather had been in general so cold that I could not without difficulty hold the instrument. By finding the error semidiameter, and other useful adjust-

Wind E.N.E.

Sextant

ments it appeared to be perfectly correct; two useful
Useful appendages of the sextant wanting.
appendages were however still wanting; a Double Telescopic ring, and a small screen driver and also Telescopic screens. These I must endeavour to procure ere my return to England—
Lat - 72°..15' N
Long. 7°..0 E.
Thermometer at noon at 48°— Fineness, Fulmars, bottle nosed Whales seen during the day. At 3 P.M. we fell in with a vast quantity of sludge ice. Stood more to the eastward to avoid it. In the evening fell in with pack-ice; made sail and pushed close to it. At Sunset the cold became intense. Thermometer at 10°. This was caused I suppose by the ice. A fall
Great fall of the Thermometer.
of the thermometer during day of 38°! At midnight very cloudy and windy: it had much the
Wind N.W.
appearance of a violent Storm from the Northward.— During the whole time we had been amongst ice, I had observed the water to be of a fine dark green colour.

April 19th. Until noon, sharp squalls of wind
Wind variable
varying 7 or 8 points, with cloudy disagreable weather: when it cleared more up, and seemed moderate to calm. Thermometer at 14°. No ice to be seen— Fulmars &c. seen. Towards evening a great deal of snow: the snow was of a most beautiful
Snow.
texture; but very common in Greenland & undutted. It was formed like a star. Six radiations from one centre; each of them variegated in the most curious and interesting manner. I was particular in exa-

Snow.

viewing the particles with a microscope, and was struck with the evident omnipresence of a divine being in thus displaying his wonderous works where human eyes were not always to admire them.

Seals seen

From the mast head were to be seen tens of thousands of seals, diverting themselves on the ice. Three whale boats were hoisted out to go to catch some. At night they returned with 36, which they caught in the following manner. When they reached the ice, and the seals saw them, they set off for the water: the men pointed and made as much noise as they possibly could. The animals turned about, stared at them with astonishment, and did not proceed any further. They are then to be struck at with impunity: which they do over the seals nose (for in that part they are particularly tender) with seal-clubs, about 5 feet long and formed at one end like a common hammer. Sometimes, as was the case once this time, the seals will spring up and strike the men in the breast, and knock them over into the sea. Some difficulty was attending on getting into the pieces of ice, a heavy sea was running, and they were confined on one piece on board without being able to get off again. Four young ones were brought onboard alive. I was out

Manner of catching them.

Lat - 72° 51'
Long - 9° 22 E.

Wind E. ESE.

Sometimes attending it.

Sensibility of a seal.

pursued with the sensibility the creatures shewed. when the sailor took one of them up in his arms to bring it away, it seemed much disturbed; it cry'd like a young child, made much such a noise; it looked up at his face to implore mercy, while tears ran down its face. When it was killed, I tried the temperature of his blood, and found it to be about 90°. This is much warmer that I should have supposed, as most amphibious animals have very cold blood; but as this one was very small and young, (for the seamen thought it had never been in the water) it might be an exception. I had not an opportunity of trying the others as they killed on the ice. The strength of animals is uncommon; they have been known to swim about after they have been finished.

Blood of the Seal warmer than expected.

April 20th. In the morning charming fine weather: thermometer at 16°. In the afternoon made the ice again: both pack & bay ice was visible; the latter was between us and the pack; we therefore much disappointed in getting some more seals. A flock of Finners - Seals & Fulmars - Beaches &c. also seen during the day. At night a hard gale of wind came on from N.N.E. which soon turned to a single point during its continuance. -

Great strength of the Seal.

Wind East.

Lat. 72°..46' N
Long. 8°..30' E.

Gale of wind.

Remarks onboard the Esk in the Arctic Ocean.

Wind E.
Lat. 72° 46' N
Long. 11 ° 21. E.

April 21st A continuance of the gale, but much interrupted by squalls and calms. Thick showers of snow &c. Thermometer at 20°. Fulmars, roaches, seals seen.

April 22nd. A continuation of yesterdays squally weather with showers of snow. This sort of weather generally presages a very heavy gale of wind, but from the favourable state of the Barometer, we were disposed to think otherwise. Thermometer at 22°. Fulmars. Roaches. Looms seen to day.

Presage of a gale of wind.
Lat. 73° 29' N
Long. 12 ° 30. E.
Wind. East.

April 23rd Squally and variable winds, with thick showers of small round snow, and unpleasant weather. We have now been a whale fortnight, beating to windward of which all the crew became fairly tired we were looking anxiously for Bear Island, which we expected almost hourly to see. A very fine ice-drake seen in the wake of the ship. with fulmars & Looms. At midnight quite still and calm.

Long tacking to windward
Wind variable
Lat. 73° 55' N
Long. 10 ° 24. E.

April 24th In the morning light airs and clear weather. Got a lunar observation, but unfortunately it proved incorrect, as some considerable mistake was made in the time. Performed Divine service. All the afternoon I was practising myself in taking the Lunar distances,

Lunar observation taken.

Wind variable

Excellence of the opportunity of taking the distance

the opportunity was a most excellent one; an almost perfect calm sea; the moon at a very convenient distance from the Sun (being about 60°): and the moon also to the eastward of the sun; so as the sextant was a convenient side upwards. Yet even under these circumstances I found the operation difficult. I felt my arm very much fatigued by holding the sextant a long time horizontally, which is requisite to those commencing the practice of the contact. The inverting telescope I found a most material acquisition. When both objects were in the glass, still I could hardly bring them together; but I found by a constant motion of the sextant round the telescope as its centre I got it to a tolerable degree of accuracy. The longitude was made in the afternoon, by another observation was 14°. 26' East. This might be supposed to be correct. These observations must be of the most essential use in making the ice, in that part, as it is only in a certain longitude where that height is to be found. They are attended with great convenience as not above 10 or 11 miles constitute a degree of longitude in these high northern latitudes, they may therefore be taken with an uncommon ac-

Difficulty attending it also.

Method of catching the objects.

Lat. 74°. 00' N
Long. 14°. 26' E.
Acc. 13°. 0 E.

Precision of the observation in an high Lat-

cold a great hindrence in observing-

free of accuracy. One thing is however rather disagreeable, namely the intense cold. It is a very great obstruction both to the working of the instruments and to the hands, as one cannot have one's gloves on - Thermometer at 24°. Towards evening thick weather came on. Fulmars - Fulmars. roaches and ice ducks & Dovekies - From the great plenty in which these birds abounded all day, and also from the land blink, we supposed ourselves to be very near the island -

Wind variable

Near the land.

Wind. east.

April 25th Early in the morning the weather cleared completely up, and ice was seen stretching from E.N.E. to S.S.E. At 6 A.M. the ragged mountains of Spitzbergen became distinctly visible at about 120 miles off. The land appeared like a very bright white cloud upon the horizon: the whiteness was owing to the snow - these ships also have sunshine - As the day was particularly serene, it was a good opportunity of ascertaining with precision the Longitude of the land; by one angular distance between it and the Suns centre, and the ex ap- bearing. Also the Suns azimuth - I hired Kelly's method for "clearing the lunar distance from Refraction and Parallax by Inspection". and was very much gratified on finding it approximate very nearly. To save the connection to

Land in sight

Its appearance

Kelly's projection

Lat - 76° 10' N.
Long - 13. 5° E

4 or 5 seconds — Got the whales tines from out the fore room and stowed them in the boats, which were hung over the gunwales and beams, by means of thier stong bowlets athwart the ship. In fact to day all the fishing gear was got in readiness — Delightfull fine weather all day. Thermometer at 24°. Towards the evening came up very much with the land, so that by 9 P. M. we were within 26 miles of it; but such is the wonderfull great deceipt with respect to the apparent distance of it, that I declare I should not have supposed us to have been more that 5 miles distant from it. The land rises to an immense heigth; the summits to its mountains seemed to be immersed in clouds.

Prepared all the fishing gear.

Approached near the land

Its deceitfull distance —

April 26th. Early this morning a fresh breeze sprung up from the westward and we shaped our course rather off the land for the ice; when at a considerable distance from the land, so that it could not be seen, its blink was distinctly seen, similar to that of the ice. When near the land, the water appeared of a much darker & thicker colour than before. Hazy weather most of the day. The sun never set to night for the first time, and a very long day was now first upon us, perhaps of 8 or 10 weeks duration. What a strange phenomena, to be taking an observation on the sun at midnight! No stars are now to be seen,

Wind. West.

Blink of the land seen.

Lat - 76° 54' N.
Long - 13. 0 E.

Constant sunshine horizontal circular of sun.

when they became visible again they were as great a novelty to us again as the sun is at present. Several sail in sight. Thermometer at 32°.

Wind N. W.

Whales seen.

Lat - 76° 54' N
Long - 12° 0. E.

April 27th Fresh breezes and cloudy weather throughout the day. Made the ice, and continued running to windward alongst it. At noon 8 sail in sight. Two or three whales seen; lowered down boats to go in search of them, but were unsuccessful. To see whales was a long wished for sight by me. I was much deceived in their appearance by the erroneous representations of them in some books on the subject. Their blowing was particularly curious, what made a great noise, it was vapour which they exhaled when on the surface of the water. In the afternoon 2 sail more in sight. Thermometer at 15°. Fulmars, roaches &c seen.

Erroneous representations of whales.

Wind N. N. E.

Lat. 76° 13. N
Long 16° 12 E.

April 28th Calm and thick weather at the early part, a breeze however sprung up and we set off working to windward; that is what is always practised in the fishery when hunting for whales. Saw several whales; backed the main yard; hoisted out boats, but could not succeed. The whale boats are of a peculiar construction: carvelee built, rounded off on the keel fore & aft, that they may be turned round easily. Very unsteady; and furnished inside with

Construction of whale boats.

Whale boats.

expressly for their intended use. Each boat is furnished with 1 harpooner, 1 boat steerer. 1 linecatcher who sits in the middle of the boat: the harpooners at the bow: 6 lines, partly coiled in the middle and partly at the stern of the boat. Thermometer at 15°. Freemans crew.

Wind S.S.W.

April 29th Fresh breezes from the southward: employed waiting for a north-west wind, which is esteemed the best for whale fishing, as it keeps the ice open. At noon the blinks of different pieces of ice were seen, one of a field particularly: here consists the great utility of the blink, as at once, the blink of a field may be seen; as the field fishing is by all means the most plentifull (although the pieces are not of so large a size as others) we made all sail for it. We came up with it in the afternoon, to which we moored: This is a very difficult operation: Great skill is required to bring the ship safely up with the ice, at the same time not to shake her against it, as a slight percussion might be attended with dangerous consequences. A boat is generally sent forward first, to set the ice anchor in, which is done by means of proper axes &c. for the expess purpose. Then the vessel is brought alongside. This ice we supposed to be about 60 or 70 feet thick. The thickness of ice is mostly ascertained by its height above water. To form

Moored to Ice.

Dangerous & difficult operation of mooring.

Lat. 77°..56 N.
Long. 17°..0 E.

Measurement of the Ice.

but this approximation must of course be according

April 29th Cont -

to the age and strength of the ice. On the ice was a great depth of Snow. At this ice we remained the rest of the night. Whales, unicorns, Fulmars, roaches, Gulls, and a Sparrow hawk seen during day. Therm at 28°-

Wind. SSW. Unmoored -

April 30th Early this morning unmoored, as we found that the ice to which we had moored, was a flat of ice, or ice seperated from a field - We stood out. No seth were seen contrary to our expectations at this ice. Heard from the Leviathan that she had not yet found her boat. This related to a melancholy circumstance, which happened on the 27 inst. As the Leviathan was beating to windward amongst some ice, she unfortunately stove herself against a piece, so as to cause a rent of 14 feet long and 9 broad, on the larboard bow. After perhaps expending most of her own materials about the necessary repair, she sent a boat to other ships near her for assistance. After having gone to some Ships she came to the Esk: with Sailor like Liberality, she afforded her some materials of reparation. They had scarcely left us, to return to their own Ship, when a thick fog came on. The Leviathan lost of her boat there and was as yet not able to hear any tidings of her. Most likely by now the unfortunate men are dead with cold and Hunger - Towards this afternoon the ice

Lat = 77 " 45 N
Long = 16 " 06. E.

News from the Leviathan concerning her boat.

How the unfortunate accident happened, and probable destruction of its men -

The closing

Fears of being Beset by the ice!

began to date upon us very fast, and we were under the unpleasant apprehension of being beset. Happily by the aid of three boats towing us out ahead (for it was perfectly calm) we succeeded in getting clear of it, after we had been out but a very short time the ice came too with a tremendous crash, such as would have squeezed the ship all to pieces — Thermometer at 15°. Much rhyme first evening the Day. Whales. Unicorns, Fulmars, roaches and Looms seen — This being the last day in April (for tomorrow was Sunday) it was a time of great merriment amongst the Jovial crew: who according to custom, made a model of the Ship, which was suspended by the two best manned men on the main top gallant Stay, with all sorts of fine ribbands — Blacking faces, Dancing; music; and all sorts of arrant and tendrant grimaces concluded the day.

Wind S. W. almost calm.

Fun of the Seamen on the 1st May.

May 1st. Fresh breezes which increased to a gale in the afternoon, with cloudy weather. Reached from the ice to the land, which we made at the latter end of the day. This land was the Foreland, some of the highest land in Spitzbergen; Hiss measured the height of this land, and found to be upwards of a mile! It consists of several Pyramids, towering to the skyes. It seems to overlooking the sea. It is covered with snow, and has a truly grand and terrific appearance. Thermn. 13. Fulmars seen —

Wind. N. E.

Made Land

Description of the Land —

Lat. 77° 56 N
Long. 7° 30 E

Remarks onboard the Esk in the Arctic ocean

Wind N. E. — Lat = 75 ° 16. N Long. 8 ° 0. E.

May 2nd. A most violent gale of wind all day; fortunately under the Lee of some ice. I Sail in sight Thermometer 15° Fulmars and roaches seen —

Wind N. N. E. Ice broke up- & danger of the Esk in consequence of it —

May 3rd. Early in the morning, the ice which afforded us such good protection yesterday, unfortunately broke up; and we were left to the mercy of such a sea as I never before saw: keeping only "maintain Sail". Our situation was this day particularly unpleasant; our Sheathed bark was under very little sail of course; when in the hollow of the sea, was almost becalmed; then when she rose again on the Summit of the billows every thing seemed as if it would be blown away. The wind, with which we fared on the immense theatre of ice floating about, against which if we had struck, we must inevitably have been lost — Thanks to the Almighty — the Esk rode the gale out as well as could be possibly expected. At night it was more moderate. During this gale we had very thick weather, after it, the horizon was covered with those "white hard clouds" mentioned by Captain Phipps. to Leeward. This gale it was not like those mentioned by Scoresby; it rose and subsided in the same quarter (N. N. E.) never altered one single point, and was steady throughout. Height of the thermometer 16° — Fulmars seen —

Lat = 77 ° 38. N Long. 8 ° 0. E.

Nature of this Gale of wind —

Wind N. N. E.

May 4th. Moderate weather, but the sea still running very high. Manchester of Hull made signal to speak us. We shortned sail and she came up with us. She told us, the captain was dying, and requested the assistance of our surgeon. Hove too under a floe of ice and sent

Wind N. N. E. Unpleasant information from the Manchester of Hull.

Lat - 77° 17'
Long. 7° 40 E.

him onboard. Glad to find him not to bad as we expected. Made sail again for the ice, which we came up with in the evening. The weather now became unusually fine. Therm. 20°. Fulmars & roaches seen —

Wind variable
Lat - 77° 13' N
Long - 07° 0 E.

May 5th. Thick showers of snow all day. In the afternoon reached into some ice. Thermometer at 20°. Whales, unicorns, Fulmars, and roaches seen. Cloudy night; wind very fresh.

Wind West.
Lat. 78° 05' N
Long. 06° 30. E.
Wind N. N W.

May 6th. Fresh winds and moderate cloudy wr. Tried very hard to catch some fish, but still very unsuccessful. All the crew became evidently uneasy and ill-tempered at it. Thermometer 16°. Fulmars, roaches, loons & Kingonmatlet seen —

Wind North.
Worked along a field of Ice

May 7th. In the morning fresh breezes and foggy, rather cloudy with a little rain. Got up to a field of ice. A vast of fish seen. Stationed the boats along it. At 2 P.M. had the satisfaction of seeing a a fish struck, which was indicated by the first boats hoisting his Jack. The Ship answered it immediately by hoisting hers. All the other boats which were out went to her assistance. It is a curious sight to the men running out of their beds when a Sail! a Sail! a Sail! is called. Some half naked, begin dressing themselves upon deck, others dress themselves in the boats. All in a great hurry. The ship was immediately directed towards some body of ice, where it was suspected the fish would come up again, and luckily a boat was dropped just in the place where the did come up. By that means a second harpoon was struck in —

Ridiculous sight in seeing the Commencement.

Proceedings after the Fall was called.

Second harpoon struck in —

Length of time the Whale can sustain

when this is done, half the job is over. This fish ran out about 3 miles of line. She was struck a third time and at last became so much exhausted, as to come to the surface constantly for Respiration, They then began lancing her, removing their instruments for fear of her. In this way she was killed. One of the boats was knocked over by the Whales tail, but no one drowned. I never was more frightened in my life than I was at seeing the death of a whale, To see the entire passive one attacking such a monster, She rising her head up, and spouting blood to a great height, but was at length overpowered. Her two fins were lashed together and a lashing round the tail by which she was towed alongside, after the ship was moored to a field. When alongside three great tackles are made fast to her, One the bunch or note tackle, was made fast at the nose, another the Cant, or a tackle made fast to the blubber about the fin, and the other the Capstan, or a tackle made fast about the tail, in this manner the fish is hove up a convenient height — The hatches are taken off the hold, and some water started from the casks. The Steward takes his station here at his particular Duty. The Spokesmen, upon the fish, and superintends its cutting up. The blubber is cut off in very large pieces and hauled upon deck. The Boat-Steerer cuts it into small pieces, and cast it thro' a hole in the hatch into the hold, where it lies as yet — In the afternoon another fish was called, and a

Means of Lancing the whale.

Boat upset —

Pleasing sight of the Death of the fish

Continued process of getting the Whale alongside.

Method of flenching the Whale —

Grand harpooner with spurs on

Wind North —
Lat = 75 - 10. N
Long. 05. 30. E.

Sulman

N. 1 E
Wind. ~~S. and S.~~ N.
Lat. 78 ◦ 03. N
Long. 4 ◦ 51. E.
Last boat from the ice

N. 2.
Sinclair

6 ◦ 4½

Wind. N. E.

Lat = 78 ◦ 10 N
Long - 4 ◦ 20 E.

N 3
Dowell.

6 ◦ 3.
Water entirely frozen with Bay Ice -

8 Wind North

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fine fish was struck, after running out a great quantity of line, the harpoon drew. During this day upwards of 200 Whales were supposed to have been seen - Thermometer at 12°. Sulman struck a man on the ice -

May 8th. After the flenching was over, we removed Ship from the field and made sail. Delightfull fine weather with fresh breezes. performed Divine Service. Thermometer. 10° Whales. Unicorns, Seamen, Seals, Bears, &c. &c. Ice seen.

May 9th. Beautifull clear weather and almost calm. At 9 A.M. a Fall was called and after an easy death she was towed alongside - This whale was much less than the other, The size of it fell it measured by the length of the whale-bone. When it measures less that 6 feet, it is not a size fish. In the afternoon Capt. S. and myself went in a boat but met unsuccessfull. Got one Bear. but the harpoon drew. At 10 P.M. another fall was called much to our joy. This fish came up close alongside and was struck from the Ship - In 15 minutes she was dead, she was towed alongside and flenched; at midnight the water was entirely covered with a thin stream of bay-ice, which had been frozen. I observed the progress of coagulation, but nothing particular occurred to me. As the weather was now particularly clear, I had an opportunity of observing

Appearance of phenomena of the Sun -

The variation of appearance in the Sun between mid-day & midnight observed none, except that which must consequently arise from the difference of altitude, but I could look at him without pain dazzled Martin mentioning his appearing like the moon at Mid-night. I was much deceived with respect to his altitude, which at about 6°. It appeared to be as high as in the day time, although his alt. is 30°.

None -

Exception with respect to his alt.

May 10th Calm all day; the water all around us frozen. Fine also, similar in texture to that mentioned a few days since in my journal. The ice all around us that comming to any part with most tremendous crashes, for that in the afternoon the ship was completely beset by the field. By the violent pressure of the ice, are attributed the cause of the hummocks of ice, some of them 30 & 40 feet higher than the generality of it. We were now in a very dreary plight, as we had no possible communication with the open water. Miles and perhaps hundreds from it. Should a strong N.W. wind spring up, we may run some chance of getting loose again; if not, God knows how long we may be in this unpleasant situation. Many ships were last year confined until the August, before they were liberated. One comfort generally arises from being beset, fine weather and calms are prevalent, which we had all this day. — Thermometer at 16°. Whales & Sea cows seen, but no birds.

Wind. Calm -

The Ice Bending us very fast.

Chiefly Salt. Saltmarsh &c -

Supposed cause of the formation of Hummocks -

Lat. 76 ° 03. N
Long. 4 ° W. C.

May 11th Charming fine weather; and nearly calm.

Fine weather during being beset -

Wind Variable -

it would not do however to lie still, whilst we kept a small portion of water to be amongst; or rather boy ice. Got all hands on the ice and moved her a considerable distance; at least nearly to the field, when we moored, in hopes that should the ice to windward be inclined to come down upon us we might cut a hole in the ice, and drive the ship in. I cannot better picture our situation than by referring to a plate in Ross's Voyage, wherein the Isabella and Victory are beset in a calm — All the afternoon, I amused myself running about on the ice. This is fine exercise. I almost regretted I did not bring a pair of skates with me. It is a general remark that a sailor eats 4 times as much, whilst in this situation, than when in England. I am sure I found this the case; for I never can eat so many hours without having something to eat. Every man onboard looks as healthy as possible. As a dead calm prevailed we caught distinctly a great number of whales and porpoises blowing away, although we could not see them — Seals and sea roaches seen. Therm. 10°

Warped the ship thro' Bay ice to the Field

Lat. 78..03.N
Lon. 4..15.E.

Limelights of the Heathens and Esquimaux Bath.

Amusement on the Ice.

Healthiness of Greenland.

Wind. Calm.

May 12th Delightfull fine weather and calm. In the morning saw a bear coming over the ice, he however did not come close enough to get a shot at him. To Day we performed an operation in Greenland called Making off; or fretting the

Wind Do -

Began Making off.

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Lat. 73 - 63 N.
Long. 4 - 14 E.

blubber into the casks below. The blubber is again passed upon deck, where it is cut into much smaller pieces, into a long trough, and passed thro' an hatchway down below into casks. At 10 P.M. a fall was called, as boats were stationed in every little opening of the ice. Considerable trouble attended killing her, as she was under the ice however by the skill of Capt. S. with his ice shoes, he succeeded, and she was got alongside and flensed. — Therm. 0° Whales, Unicorn, Fulmars &c.

May 13th — Rather thick weather and calm. Therm. 0° — Continued making off. In the evening the Refraction was very great: found by my Sextant it was 12'. The therm. at this time was at 2 about 0°. Gentle wind from Southward. At 10 P.M. a fall was called, and at 11 P.M. another. — Fulmars and Noddies seen — ~~Hauled~~ Hoisted —

May 14th. The fish which were struck last night being dead, all hands were employed to get them alongside. That which was struck first never came up again: she drowned herself. She was hove up by the whale line and got alongside. The Sharks we found had eaten above a ton of blubber from her: this was rather mortifying after having cast us so much labour. It is something to see what gluttonous brutes these fish are: several were caught alongside whilst flensing. Lances and Knives were thrust into them

Wind N.E.

6 - 2

Wind Variable

Fast fish drowned herself —

Sharks eating the blubber

Sharks very numerous of late.

N.4 Watson

Considerable difficulty in killing the whale —

No5. Williams

Sinclair

No6

Remarks onboard the Esk, beset with ice in Arctic Ocean.

Wind Variable. Lat. Pilot Boy seemed to eat on, as much as before. I cut the head off, and the tail off one, and cut the entrails out; still he shew evident signs of life—

The whale which was struck secondly, now engaged our attention. We almost despaired of ever getting her onboard: She was a mile from the Ship: all hands were however mustered on the ice: the ice not thro' for some considerable distance with saws &c— and by means of ice anchors she was hauled thro' for a little distance; until we came to ice of 11/ foot thick: the ice was running very fast: one piece overlapping the other; our work laboriously & unremunerative by: still we persisted; cut another passage; and after incredible labour effected our purpose. This ended about night. All day very cold. Therm. 6° & 7° — Whales, Bears, Sea-horse, Fulmars, &c seen—

apparent difficulties attending getting the other boats—

Lat = 78° 03.1 Long. 4 - 14 E.

Miserable hard labours in having the whale onboard.

May 15th Fine weather, but cold. thermometer at 6°- Several bears came pretty close, but still could not get a shot at them - performed. Service. The crew alongside began to smell very unpleasantly; became anxious to remove the Ship from it. Got about 6 yards, and were then obliged to give it up— Seahorses, Bears, Whales and Fulmars seen—

Effected it.

Wind Vari.

Lat. 78 .03.1 Long 4 - 14 E.

Moved the Ship a little—

May 16th Charming fine weather; cut with the boats, & cut a passage thro' the ice for the ship. this was effected, and we got into another bight of the field. No symptoms of the ice opening; found by an observation that we were sitting very fast to the S. W ward.

Cut the Bay ice away & moved the Ship—

Wind variable Sailing fast to

Remarks onboard the Est bessel with Ice in the Vicinity

Lat. 77°. 55'. N.
the Southward -

Therm. 0°. Bears, unicorns, Sharks, Fulmars & seen -

May 17th Moored Ship & made all snug. Ice as close as ever; nothing to do but eat & drink: Could not even shoot a bear, they would not come close enough. Move to the South westward, if we go much more, we shall be down to Jan Mayen. Therm. 12°. Fulmars seen -

Wind. Calm - No appearance of being released -

May 18th Fine clear weather, got under weigh; moored about a mile from a place we thought likely we might escape this miserable place. We would have gone farther, but it looned and very thick, and we could not see a ships length before us. Sent a boat in pursuit of a Sea horse, but could not catch it. The ugly devil frightened even the seamen -

Lat. 77°. 35'. N.
Long. 3°. 0'. E.
Stuck in pursuit of a Walrus -

May 19th Thick weather and calm. Towards evening determined to make off if possible. Let down heavy pieces of sail: and by the aid of the boats breaking it before us, we moved a head 4 miles - Moored as it was thick, near the field edge. - Therm. 16°. Fulmars & Bears seen -

Wind. Variable
Stuck in our situation -

Lat. 77°. 23. N.
Long. 2°. 15'. E -

May 20th Thick disagreeable weather: the ice seemed running rapidly to the westward: nearly lost an anchor by it. In the afternoon moved the ship into a light at the field edge. Therm. 20°. Bears & fulmars seen -

Wind Calm
Moved 4 miles with labour -
Boats breaking the Ice before us -
Lat. 77°. 18'. N.
Long. 1°. 45'. E -

May 21st Got the ship under sail, and moved

Wind
Ice running to the Westward.
almost lost anchor -
Lat. 77°. 10'. N
Long. 1°. 30'. E -

Wind

Remarks onboard the Esk beset with ice in the Arctic Ocean.

Moved the ship from the Bay Ice
Lat 77° 03.N
Long. 0° 5.E.

her thro' some bay ice out into open water; but now had some hopes of clearing her from this place. Moored her to a field, and went onboard the Lee, Capt. Marshall. Therm. 20°. Heard, & Sulmans seen.

Wind.
Moored.
Stood to windward.
Lat. 76° 55.N
Long. 0° 15.W.
Warped thro' Pack Ice.
Thick Weather.

May 22nd Early in the morning got under weigh, as we perceived that the ice, to which we had moored, was parting, and the place coming altogether. Stood to windward and at noon hove to, to performe Divine service. In the afternoon made sail again and pushed thro' some pack ice to windward, with difficulty, we warped out. The weather at the latter part of the work was uncommonly thick. When clear the ship was lyed too under some ice. — Therm. 22°. Fulmars, &c.

May 23d

Wind.
Beset with bay Ice
Lat. 76° 48.N
Long. 0° 53.W

Light airs and hazy weather, just as badly off now as ever, although we have taken so much trouble to get clear; surrounded by bay ice. Capt. Marshall with us all day. — Therm. 24°. Seals, Fulmars &c. &c. —

Wind. variable and calm.
All hands called to move the Ship
Moved hardly at all with 300 men.
At 6 o'clock started.
Great Labour in warping always.
Immense thickness of the ice.

May 24th Thick weather and almost calm; all hands set to work to move the ship towards a place which seemed to be open; ice cut thro' with saws and hearing away upon wedges. Hardly stirred an inch; with the assistance of 4 ships companies (Leven, Harmony, Dencombe, & Perseverance) comprehending about 300 hands, we succeeded in getting her thro' some very thick ice: the labour was incredible. the ice thro' which we moved was about 15 feet thick! but all consisted of several layers of bay-ice; the latter followed up close in

Listers in our rear.

When Discharged the men; the Listers were set fast —

Lat. 76 ° 41. N.
Long. 1 ° 00. E.

Resolution taken

Made sail to the S.W.

Dangerous passage between a Floe & Ice.

Saw the last passage —

Unusual joy at the effect —

Made Signal to the other Ships —

our rear, but the ice closed so extremely fast, that the was completely nipped again, when we saw, we discharged the hands belonging to the other ships, and intended to have sent all over to their assistance; but it was too late, the was so much so fast by ice, that it would not have been in the power for as many men again to have released her. It was however agreeded that as the Ice was clear, she should past away to the intended place, and if there should be any fair prospect, to sail to the S.W. parted three spoke more beg ice; but it was of a much lower nature. Soon we came up between two large floes of ice, and there seemed to be a passage between them, which might possibly set us free, at least into another much fairer place. On coming close to it, it appeared very dangerous, as the passage was very narrow, and should this ice be closing we must inevitably have been lost, but we had been so long tried, and without any favourable appearance, that it was determined on to take her. She ran thro' it with less trouble than was apprehended; some quantity of loose ice obstructed it, her. At this exploit, a ray of joy enlightened the hearts of all of us: all were interested at it. The Ensign is hoisted immediately; hoping that our worthy consorts may perceive it, and commence getting out. This place of water appear-

Appearance of the place

ed to have been open but a very short time, perhaps
24 hours. Several Unicorns seen on entering. one
hope from this to see some whales, as they are gene-
rally together — Therm. 22° — Fulmars, Noddies &c. seen —

Wind — Turned to wind ward and main

May 25th. Fresh breezes and cloudy weather. Turned to
windward, up to the NE of the floe, where we moored.
From the mast-head there seemed to be an opening in
some water on the other side of this floe, which the men
the hopes, was the sea. Capt. S. and myself went onto the ice
to examine this place. An opening there certainly was: but
the ice was setting down very fast to leeward: by the chat-
ing of these immense bodies of ice together; hummocks of
20 & 30 feet high were raised, accompanied by a noise
similar to thunder. It was a dreadful sight to see
it. If our poor ship had been between, it would have
crushed her to atoms. Great quantities of this ice (hummocky
when broken) assumed a reddish colour, which I can-
not account for. On coming onboard again we
found some difficulty to reach the ship, as the bay ice
was running at the rate of 2 or 3 knots per hour — we made
sail and ran down to leeward, amongst some bay ice
where we stuck fast. Got a warp & towrine out, and
soon away again to windward, to get clear; after 6 or 10
hours hard labour (for it was blowing hard), we reached
the place, where we came from — Raw weather. Therm.
at 22° — Kept veering &c —

Dreadful sight of the rushing of the ice —

Hummocks &c —

Bay ice setting down fast —

Force of waves &c —

Warped again to windward —

Lat. 76° 30. N
Long. 2° 0. E.

May 26th Fresh breezes & rainy and cloudy weather;
At about 8 AM, the passage which examined rapidly ex-
ted to about 300 or 400 yards in the course of half an hour;
made sail immediately for it, and ran thro' the nar-

Wind.

Opening of the Field of ice.

Free, Fresh from Deptford.—

Made Sail &c.—

Stood to Eastw.d—

Shewing the Heave up to make fast—
Lat. 76° 37'. N
Lay. 3° 36'. E.—

Wind—

Sea the Seam of Ice between us & the Sea—
Heavy Swell—
Broad—

Thick weather.
Lat 76° 42'. N
Lay. 4° 15'. E.

Wind East

Lat. 76°. 44'. N.
Long. 5°. 0 E.

considered ourselves entirely free: made sail to windward (N E) and passed thro' a great quantity of strong pack ice. The Ship thumped very violently a Some
few times, but it could not be avoided. After getting clear of it stood to the eastward, and at night came up into a fine clear place of water. Plyed more to windward and endeavoured to get fast to a floe of ice, but as it was blowy & strong, the ice anchor would not hold us: to the eastward of us, the Sink of the Sea was visible, and yet there we must wait untill it opens more.— Thermom.r 36 Fulmars and a Land bird (Chaucke) seen—.

May 27th Gales of wind and dirty weather all day. Shelved to the eastward and made a Stream of ice, which was now the only seperation between us and the sea. Stood to windward and at times lyed too; struck a piece of ice dangerously by the gunwale, so as to set all the bells ringing, and knock every thing off the table. At one time thought we were fixed again, but the weather clearing up a little more discovered the mistake.— Therm.r 32°. Fulmars, Kittywakes, & three birds seen — a very coarse night —

May 28th Fresh breezes and moderate weather; saw too sail of sea; made sail, and forced thro' the sea Stream into the sea; reached to the Southward about 12 miles, then tacked and stood to the Eastward: at 4 P.M. wind came round to the Southward at which & so to Sward. Fleeces to S.S.W. for the ice again. All the afternoon charming fine weather. Endeavoured to get to Lemans distance, but

the distance was too great.— Therm. 24°. Fulmars, Snow-birds, Burgomasters, Duffeys and Kittywakes seen —

Wind South. May 29th Gentle breezes and very cloudy. towards the afternoon wind came more round to the westward — Two ships hove in sight, supposed them to be Hamburghers but on their comming nearer discovered one to be from Bremen. Both these ships got fast in the afternoon—

Lat. 77°. 44'. N. Long. 5°. 30' E. In the Evening 34 sail in sight; most of them amongst the ice to the westward. Reached to the Northward— At 8 P. M. a whale seen: Shew all aback, and down boat after him. made sail again and kept the boat on the watch. The sea for these two last days was of a muddy green colour, which is of course the best for the fishing. This green muddy colour I observed on our first approach to the land. the Bank of the land was distinctly visible to the eastward this morning. Therm. 26°. at night fell to 22°. Whales, Burgoos, Seahorse, Fulmars & Duffeys seen — —.

Wind S. E. No 7. 8 " 7. Dowell. May 30th Moderate weather and very cloudy. reached in amongst the ice, and amongst many sail of ships — Made sail down into a bee bight of the ice. At 11 A. M. a fish was struck; at 11" 30' the second harpoon was struck; at 1 P. M. she was towed alongside and at 3" 30' finished flinching whilst flinching shot several bird. Made sail again from the ice to which we had been moored; and worked to windward. In getting under weigh, the Main mast seemed to be spung; I hope this may not prove a future danger. The carpenter was set to work to remedy it. At night passed a Sea stream of ice, and worked to Sea. Made all ready for Making off; intending to have begun, but the night seem-

Lat. 78°. 5' N. Long. 6°. 45' E.

51

Wind E.N.E.

ed inclined to be new course.—Lea of a thick green colour—Therm. 26°—Whales, Unicorn, Seals, Kittywakes, Gramb.ts and Fulmars seen during day.

Wind. N.E.

May 31st Gale of wind with coarse snowy weather, throughout day; heavy sea running. In the afternoon it moderated a little; kept standing to windward. Towards evening as the swell was much less, began to make off. Thermometer at 28°—A piece of wood seen floating in the sea, but could not tell from whence it came. Fulmar. Auks, Gulls, Loons, Snowbirds and Kittywakes seen—

Lat. 76°. 15'. N
Long. 6°. 0. E

Wind N.N.E.

June 1st More moderate weather, with much less heavy sea on. Several sail hove in sight to leeward. Stood to windward towards the Blink of the ice. Finished making off. In the afternoon very fine weather, but very foggy. Therm. 26°. Malemuks and Auks seen—

Wind variable

Lat. 76°. 25'. N
Long. 6°. 0. E.

Wind very variable.

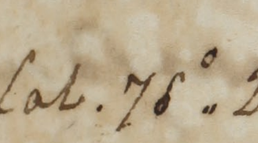
June 2nd Gentle airs and cloudy, towards evening clear weather. Several Whales blowing; kept the boats constantly on the watch; latter part calm. Blink of the land seen. Seals and birds seen. Thermometer 28°

Wind. N.E.

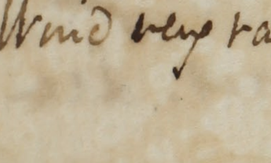
Lat. 76°. 30'. N
Long. 6°. 30. E.

Wind variable—

3rd Light airs and at intervals calm—At 8 A.M. a fish was struck and in an hour after was dead—At 9 A.M. another was struck in by the ice. In the capture of the latter, they were attacked by a Sea Horse, which with difficulty they repulsed, constantly keeping in the boat's wake, and diving down and coming up on each side of her. At them both turned alongside and flinched. The tail of the largest fish measured twenty feet from the one extremity to the other. At midnight made sail again to wind-



Bulman.
No 9



Cumbar

Lat. 78°.10' N.
Long 5°.45.E
Wind N.W.

ward, as a fresh breeze sprung up. Spoke, or rather groomed the Ice of Scotland, she had nine fish. Grooming is the general method of knowing the number of fish any ship has. That is a Groom is stuck up in some part of the ship where the other ships can see it. The answers it, by hoisting the Groom up, and beating it down, to mean fewer as the less fish. Thermometer at 22°. Fulmars. Kittywakes. a wild Goose, and an immensity of seals seen—

Wind S. W.
Lat. 78°.13.N
Long. 4°.30.E

June 4th Light winds and fair weather, at times very cloudy. Turning to windward all day. At noon amongst the Ice. At night almost calm— Therm. 22°. Kittywakes seen—

No 10
S.b

Fuleman

No 11.
7.11

Fuleman-

No 12
9.6.

Fuleman-

Wind N.E.

June 5th Light breezes and fair weather, standing to the Eastward. At 4h.30 A.M. a fish was struck; to windward: and at 5 A.M. another was struck, a long way to windward. All boats sent off to assistance. I went in one, and had the pleasure of being up at the death. This fish was chiefly killed by the able assistance of a boat from the Manchester of Hull. We got her towed alongside and rowing down to leeward after the other fish. got her alongside also, and struck them both. When finished made sail again, as we were a long way to leeward, near some ice to the Eastward. At 7 P.M another large fish was struck but which dyed very easily, got her alongside and struck her— After all that completed made sail. General sail in sight all day. Therm. 20°. Bergomasters and Kittywakes seen——

Lat. 78°.03'.N
Long. 5°.45.E.

Wind N.W.

June 6th Moderate breezes of wind & thick cloudy weather, with showers of small snow. Turning to windward all day— In the afternoon several Whales seen, and at night sent some boats away. The weather came on particularly thick, and the boats were a long way off; at midnight became variable with squalls after them— Therm. 25°. Two Sea Parrots, Kittywakes, Bergomasters and Fulmars seen—

Wind variable

53

June 7th Still intolerable thick weather, could see nothing of the boats. At 3h.30m a fall was called; the mea-

№ 13.
Wellbeen.

8 " 2 —

Lat 78° " 25 N
Long. 7 " 0. E.

Wind Variable.

№ 14.
Fineman —

Wind. N. E.

№ 15.
Pallman —

Pe— bald.
9 " 2 —

Lat. 78° " 45 N
Long. 5 " 45. E.

Wind N. W.

Gratefull news from old England. Dethronement of Buonaparte &c.

Wind N. W.
Lat. 78° " 50. N
Long. 6 " 0. E.
Wind do

then cleared up, and the boats were visible. After a very easy death, she was towed alongside. We then understood from the Harpooner, that he had been fast to his fish an hour and an half; but away to the stock we then, it was not perceived by the ships. The fish was particularly easy with him, not taking out more than 40 lines, & they had all their jackets hoisted on their bars, but all to no purpose. Flenched her, and made sail again. Light airs and Cloudy all day. Therm. 26° Pitty wakes and Le fourth seen & 10 P. M. another fish was towed from alongside and began flenching.

June 8th Continued flenching the last fish, sent two boats away, and at 1 A. M. a fish was struck, all hands broke off and went to the assistance of the fast boat. In 28 minutes she was dead, and began towing alongside. This fish was a great beauty, as she was pickled. After flenching the fish, finished her. Got every thing in order, and sent some more boats out. Calm and cloudy about noon — the Ice of-forenoon the John of Greenock bore in sight to the Eastward, bore away for her. At midnight came alongside — Mr Scoutby &c. accompanied by Capt. Gardner came onboard the Esk, and after spending a short time with us, returned to their ship. They left with us a newspaper, containing the important and gratifying intelligence of the Dethronement of Buonaparte! and by the new flattering accounts of foreign affairs, it appears that Europe will soon enjoy the blessings of an universal peace. May God grant it. — Therm. to Day at 26° Fellowship Pinnacles & looms seen —

June 9th Strong gales of wind all day. The John to windward of us. In the afternoon began the hard operation of Making Oil. However it is a pleasant thing having a pretty decent Fish but to Deal with. Several sail in sight, under the Lee of a bank ice to Westward. Therm. 26° Few bird fea-

Remarks &c.c, onboard the Esk in the Arctic Ocean.

Wind S. W.

Lat 79°. 06'. N
Long. 5°. 30. E.

Making off on Ice Sea—

Wind SSW—

Wind SS.W.
Lat. 79°. 14'. N
Long. 6°. 0. E.

Wind. N.b.E.

Made Land

News from the Augusta.

Misfortune of two Ships which were lost with us.

Lat. 78°. 33'. N.
Long. 7°. 55. E.

Left the Land.

Midn. obs. ⊙
Lat. 78°. 20'. N.

55

June 10th Blowing a hard gale of wind all day, with snow & thick weather. Continued the laborious operation of making off: and by the afternoon completed filling the third hold of Casks in the aftermast hold. Broke open on the fore hold; but the weather coming on so bad, were forced to give it up, and make all sail to windward, as we were down on the lee ice. In the morning the boat of the Vigilant of London, came onboard, stating the misfortune of his having unshipped his rudder: sent our Blacksmith to his relief. Thermr. 6 Day 31°. Thousands of Waterspouts in our wake—

June 11th Less wind, and cloudy weather with snow; working to windward; no sail seen: Towards the evening almost calm: Jumined some whale bone: Thermr. at 32°. No whales seen. Fulmars & Kittywakes in abundance—

June 12th Wind came about early in the morning land in sight: Nutt Cape bearing N.b.E. N. 29 miles. Bore away to the S.E. and at 9 P.M. Vogel Hook bore E.b.N. The remainder of this commence high land was unnamed in the Chart. A great quantity of snow seemed to have gone from it, since we last saw it. Augusta of Hull in sight, her boat boarded us, thinking we were full from our passage home. They informed us of some of the ships which were left with us. The Zero & Alfred have had some most dreadfull gales by the Ice. One of them was obliged to be sunk with water, in order that her Beams were level with the ice, in order to withstand the pressure with more ease; The other by the pressure of the Ice was stove on her beam ends. Her Lower yards being on the Ice— A great number of Razor-Backs seen, lowered down boats after some whales also, after standing to the N.b. for a few miles stood again to the W.N.W. A white Whale seen: two sail in sight, one on the weather, the other on the lee quarter. At 10 P.M. fell in with a vast of Whales: lowered down all the boats. At midnight serene weather with gentle breezes— Thermr. in morn. 34. lowest night fell to 28°—

Remarks &c. onboard the Ship Esk in the Arctic Ocean

Wind W.S.W

10 ½ 2.
John Trueman—

№ 17.
Delivered—

—9 ½ 2—
John Trueman—

Chased the lost fish.

№ 18
Robert Dowell.

10 ½ 2
Good fortune in sticking the last fish.

Lat - 78° ½ 25. N
Long. 7 ½ 45. E.

Wind. W.b.S—

Wind. W.S.W.

Ships Company employed in various jobs —

Lat - 78°. 50. N
Long. 8 ½ 0. E.

Making. Off—

June 13th Serene weather with light airs & wind. boats a long way from the ship. At 1h A.M. could just discern the back of a sperm boat to windward. Made all sail for her; and by the time we reached her, the fish was dead. Got her towed alongside and flenched. At 9 A.M. two harpooners, each struck a fish at the same instant; one of them appeared to be a very large one, as the line a great deal on the rope. Unfortunately the other boats could not reach her, before she ran away with all the lines, and was lost. The other fish was managed very well; boats got to her assistance and she was killed in a little time. The 1st Mate also got fast, but his harpoon drew. This fish did not take out more than 2 fathoms of line, and therefore was lost sight of. All the disengaged boats continued in chase of the lost fish, and at 11 h 30m A.M. came up with her. They struck another harpoon in, and were then fast again. This was very fortunate, as the loss of 7 lines would have been great. In 20 minutes she was dead. Her short time in dying, must have been owing to her extreme fatigue, having so much line after her. Beat the ship to windward, and soon got her alongside. Made sail to windward again, after the other fish. At noon had charming fine weather; land in sight during all these operations — At 2 P.M. Expedition bore East. dist 25 miles — Came up with the other fish and made her fast on the weather quarter. After flenching the other fish flenched her. Made sail again to the Westward. At midnight came on cloudy with a fresh breeze of wind. Thermom 34° — Latitude, Soundings, &c as before —

June 14th Fresh breezes and cloudy thick weather in the morning. The Ships company employed in Bending the lines into the harpoons, coiling the ropes in the boats — Setting up Shakes, Turning Whale bone &c. and many other jobs necessary to be done By the afternoon reached within 15 miles of the land on the Starboard tack, Sacked Ship. The North end of the Foreland bearing East. and the land between Hamburgh Bay & Burtts Point N.E. In the Afternoon commenced Making Off. Hauled in the Foreshold; and by midnight, got 18 tons of Blubber, on to Stowed away

Remarks &c.a. onboard the Esk in the Arctic Ocean.—

Got some thelches of the land. Wind Variable.

At that time nearly Calm with Cloudy weather. Got several sketches of the Land, as it was tolerably clear to the Eastward. Therm.r at 32°. Looms, Kittywakes & Fulmars seen.—

Wind. E.N.E. Making off Welburn

June 15th. Charming fine weather, with light breezes of wind. Continues making off, having completed the fore hold, and began stowing the after Hold. Although the lofty land was visible above the cloud which shades the horizon. The Coopers employed fitting up Shakes At 8 P.M. a fish was struck to windward: immediately broke off. Shaking off. Veer, and despatched boats to the fast one & Headed her till midnight when there was no appearance of getting another harpoon into her. She seemed to run very freely on all sides; & made a very long way to windward, but the weather was still very fine, with light airs of wind. Made all sail pattable towards her. Two sail in sight, One the Vigelant of London. The other the Neph. Flyer of Dundee. Therm.r 31°. Looms, Fulmars, & Kittywakes seen.—

Chasing the whale all night. no appearance of success

Obs. at Midnight Lat. 75 - 20 N. Long. 6 - 30 E.

June 16th. Dark clouds rising from to windward, and a very great appearance of bad weather, became very anxious concerning the Boats. Early in the morning the Fast Boat with 2 or 3 others alongside her, could just be seen from the mast head: but no other of another harpoon being on her—At about 2 A.M. one of the boats came alongside, and gave us a very deplorable account of the rest. All the Boats had been lashed altogether, the line; still she seemed to drag them along with as much ease as before. In fact there seemed to be no probability of ever getting her alongside. Harpooners who had been here upwards of 20 years, said they never remembered an instance like the present! To save her the boat Steered the only thing left. A cask was conveyed to the fast boat. the view taken out: and then the fish had a good degree of her back. When the men came onboard they were quite overpowered with fatigue and hunger, having been absent 18 hours, most of them pulling in the boats to windward. Many (in the hurry of a Fast being called) went away without Jackets, Caps or hats, and were thus exposed to the inclemency of Greenland weather. The men began to turn the fish up to windward as far as we could.— A Dead fish (a whale) was seen by one of the Boatsteerers; and to her we directed our course. Got a warp fast to her and

Fatiguing Work of the day— Hardiness of Greenland Sailors

Dead fish found.

Left the Whale.

Extraordinary signs of the season of the Whale.

Wind E.b.S. unpleasant apprehension of the Boats.

Bad State of the boats.

57

Wind S.E. — Lat. 78°.. N. Long. 7..0 E. — Calm of wind coming on — Boat, Lines, and fish all abandoned — !.

lowed her for some distance. Dispatched another boat to the boat which had been quitted, and Made sail towards her — But now a Calm of wind came on, and in a very short time a tremendous Sea was risen — It was now necessary to let both dead fish, and fast one alone, therefore cut her off and made signal for the boat to Leeward to cast off the fast boat. She obeyed it. As they commenced overboard, they were in the most eminent danger, the ship was nearly full of water, up to the Hencoops waves were over the stern, it required the greatest exertion to attach her in getting thro such a heavy sea — But thro' the goodness of a Divine Being, they both reached the Ship in safety — The sails were all close reefed, and she stood to windward. Very dark and thick with rain for the first time this year — Therm 36° — Kittywakes and Fulmars —

Danger of the boats.

Arrived in safety —

Wind S.E. b. S. —

June 17th. Dark dismal weather, with a thick fog all day — early in the morning the wind came round; but still it blew very hard, with a heavy sea. At 6 P. M. fell in with the dead fish, we had yesterday abandoned. Sent away boats to get ropes fast to her; and after considerable trouble got her alongside. She was however at least half eaten away by the Sharks; all the back was gone: there was the bone, and most of the meat was gone. She had an intolerable stench attached to her, but however the Blubber was much better to cut than was expected. Flinched her — Whilst flinching her, to our great surprise, the fast boat's jack, came floating South a few yards of the Ship! This seemed marvelous. the jack had got adrift when the men quitted her for the last time, and it had come floating down to leeward during the recent Calm. This circumstance — —

Wind. South — No 19. Fulmar —

No bone being dead when first seen —

Very much eaten by the Sharks —

Long pleasant stand attached to her —

Happening in the manner

Lat. 78°.. 05'. N. Long. 7 - 30. E. —

Benefit of the aforementioned circumstance — —

indicated to us the boat must be ordered to windward; and thirteen men made sail immediately in search of her. — Therm. 35° — Fulmar, and Roachet seen —

Wind. South — came up with the Boat, and brought the Ship up with the Float. Anchor.

June 18th Fresh breezes of wind and cloudy weather, in general stock. Early in the morning got sight of the boat to windward. Made all sail possible, and soon came up with her. Brought the Ship up with the floating Anchor, but it unfortunately got foul, and thereby was not very beneficial. After considerable

Got the Boat and Lines onboard.

Lat. 75° 10. N
Long. 6 " 45. E.

Making Sail for the Ice—

Shot for Fresh Water—

Wind W.S.W.

Wind W.S.W.

Made the Ice—

Lat. 75° 6. N
Long 5 " 30. E.

Wind South

Wind W.S.W.

Making off.
Lat. 75° 20 N.
Long. 5 " 0. E.
Got amongst fish

Wind N.W.
Lat 75° 30. N.
Long. 4 " 30. E.

Wind N.W. to Boat away for the Fishes—
№ 20
Thieman—

—7 " 6—
Boat upset—
59

exertion with all Hands at work, we succeeded in getting all the g lories onboard. Fortunately the weather was very moderate during our operations, or we should probably have lost lines, boat &c.c— Made Sail again to windward towards the Ice. We have had more Bad Weather, and have been longer from the Ice this Year than any other during our being in Greenland. We began now to be rather short of Fresh Water, and it was therefore requisite we should make the Ice again in order to procure some. At midnight a Gale of wind came on, with thick Fogs. Thermometer 34°— Kittywakes, Fulmars, and Noaches seen—

June 19th Dark, Dismal Thick weather: the autumnal bad weather apparently comming on. Hard Gale of wind all day. In the morning reached into some Broken Ice to the westward. Continued all day beating to windward; at times lying to. In the afternoon sent all hands to bed for to Board, as we intended Making Off— Under close reefed topsails— Therm. 35°. Seals, a Whale or Fishes— Fulmars and Looms seen—

June 20th. Fresh Gales, cloudy, thick, and rainy; at 1 A.M. Wore making Off with all hands, and by the afternoon finished; hardly made off about 30 Leags. in the main land free hold. At night moderate weather and winds; made more Sail, and stood to the Northward at midnight came amongst Whales— Therm. 34°. Fulmars, Kittywakes and Seals seen—

June 21st Thick, dirty weather, with showers of rain; Light winds— Boats getting most of the day. Lying too almost all day; except running an hour or two to the N.E. W. Intend sail in sight fishing. Therm. 33°— Fulmars, Kittywakes &c. seen—

June 22nd Light winds and cloudy weather. The Sisters hove in sight a long way to Leeward. Bore down for her. Lowered away a boat just before we came up her, and at 1st the harpooner struck a Whale. This fish proved to be somewhat similar to the one we lost last week, as she was very prudent. Fortunately she played her pranks to Leeward and therefore did not fatigue the boats to much. The boat on making her approach to strike in another harpoon, was stove sunk— The men fortunately saved from being drowned, by another boats being near her. Another boat was instantly despatched. Nearly

Dangerous situation of the Boats -

Lat. 78 ° 25. N
Long 4 ° 15. E -

Restlessness of the Whale.

Seasonable assistance of the Sisters

Left his beset plaid only a week!

№21
Welcum

Little Tucker -
Whalis Ears -
Animalcula Examined.

S. b. W. wind.

John of Greenock in company.

Chasing an old & young fish.

Lat. 78 ° 35. N:
Long -4 ° 36. E.

Put into some pack ice for shelter.

Making Off —

Wind. W. b. S -
Completed filling the hold.

№22
George Sinclair

76 - 3 in
Ran to Leeward -

was an anxious sight to those onboard, as the boats were all exposed to the greatest danger. But what danger to the Greenland sailor! He must in order pursue his employment with credit to himself, risk all dangers. Our hands and indeed our Chief Mate was exposed more than the generality of them: the fish's tail many times swaping over his head, like the sheers of a Coachmans whip. — With the seasonable assistance of our worthy friend Capt. Marshall we made the capture after 8 hours. Towed her alongside and flenched her. Spoke Mr. Marshall and heard that he had escaped from the place of his being beset only one week! However since that time, he had been tolerably fortunate in the fishery. Thus we left the Sisters highly grateful for the favour bestowed on us. After flenching made sail to windward. At 9h another fish was struck on the lee quarter. He took out 6 lines, and dyed easily; this fish was a Sucker; supposed to have left its mother but a fortnight or so. The Surgeon extracted its ears for me, which I think are rather curious. I also preserved some of the animalcula which are found on the skin. Wrote & put into Spirits of Wine. — 9h Flenching done, and all clear. Made sail again. Therm. 31°. Sea of a light thick green colour. Kittywakes, and Fulmars, and Ducks seen. —

June 23rd. Fresh breezes, which increased to a gale of wind at mid day, with cloudy and thick weather. Early in the morning John of Greenock close to us. Mr. Scoutby Senr. came onboard the Esk and spent most of the morning with us. After his leaving us, we got sight of an old shake and young one, which we chased for 1½ hour. They ran so fast to Leeward for a considerable distance, that we turned directly in the wind's eye: The Jane of Aberdeen hunted them also, and at last got fast to the young one. A Gale coming on, we were obliged to give up the chase, and run into some pack ice to the Westward, where we remained for some time. In the afternoon came out and began to make off our blubber. At midnight the wind was moderate, but cloudy. — Therm. 31°. Fulmars seen. — Sea of a light clear blue colour

June 24th. Moderate breezes of wind, and clearer weather. Finished making off at 2h A. M, which completed the hold, and a cask or two extra. On completing the hold, the crew gave three hearty cheers. At 3h 30m. a fish was struck, and quite unexpectedly too. In an hour and an half she was killed towed her alongside, finished her. About this time very light airs, and at times thick. Made sail again and about noon ran to Leeward round a point of heavy ice.

Remarks &c. onboard the Esk in the Frozen Ocean.

Wind. Westerly. Thermn.

Lat. 78° 33. N
Long. 3 " 0. E.
Strong Gales —

Hauled our wind again round the Lee Beam of ice, and beat to windward — Thick weather with fresh breezes of wind. At 10h 40m A Large fist was struck to Leeward. Turned the Ship up to windward. In Staff an hour, we perceived to our great mortification the was Loose: occasioned by the breaking of the harpoon. Got our boats onboard again by midnight. Fall of Wind comming rapidly on. Therm. 30° Fulmars & Cathy wakes. seen — Sea suddenly turned of a beautiful green colour —

Wind. South —
Lat. 78 " 38. N
Long. 3 " 14. E —
Ran to Eastward.

June 25th Thick gales of wind; Reached out to Sea; Thick weather with snow & rain — In the afternoon more moderate. Made sail to the westward, and came up with some pack ice. Many Sail in sight Jacked to windward. Ran to Eastward for some distance, then hauled up North. Continued to all night. Therm. 34° Fulmars & Coaches seen —

Wind. S. E —
Lat. 78 " 44. N
Long. 3 " 24. E.

June 26th Moderate weather and breezes; cloudy. Ice to Leeward. working to windward and lying too all day. Several Whales seen. Had a Loose Fall for most of the day, but once very unsuccessful. Many Ships on both sides much distt. Thick with Snow at Intervals & Therm. 31° Fulmars seen —

Wind. South —
Lat. 78 " 45. N
Long. 3. 22. E.
Spoke the Sisters of Hull —

June 27th Sharp gale of wind with thick weather, and rain by turns. Spoke the Sisters and got some intelligence of the unfortunate fate of some Ships which were beset South ward. All of which seemed to be badly fished — Lying too most of the day and working to windward. Ice to Leeward. Whales. Fulmars & Cathy wakes seen. Therm. 31° —

Wind. S. W.

Lat. 78 " 02. 0 W
Long. 3 " 0. E.
Turning to Westd.

June 28th Pleasant weather — Light breezes and cloudy. for the most part of the day clear, no fog. Many whales seen. Boats lower most of the day, but themselves unsuccessful. Most of these fish seemed to be sleeping, running very fast to windward. John of Leith in sight amongst the Ice about 12 miles distant. At midnight steering to windward, Ice lying to the westward. Therm 35. Fulmars, Cathy wakes and Gulls seen —

Wind. S.S.W.

June 29th Fresh breezes with cloudy weather. In the morning steering to windward. The Mary of Hull came in sight, on the S.S.W. with her colours for going home. At 12 came up with her; sent letters onboard, and received some very gratifying news, namely. Peace with all Nations, excepting America! Imprisonment of Buonaparte! and that a Ship of the line, and two Frigates were sailing in Greenland, in order to repulse the Americans, should they attack the trading Ships — After this made sail to the Westward, as there appeared to be Whales there. Continued all day with an heavy press of canvas set, endea-

Pleasing intelligence from the Mary of Hull Peace!! Peace!!.. Made sail to the Westward.

Remarks &c. onboard the Esk in the Frozen Ocean -

Lat. 78. 20. N.
Long. 3. 45. E.
Wind S.W. b. W.

rowing to get to the westward. Passed thro' many streams of Ice. At midnight going at the rate of 6 or 7 knots, on the bowlines. Several sail in sight. Therm. 31°. Lead and Fulmars seen -

Wind S.S.E -
Got the guns up and began makg.
- off.

June 30th. Fresh breezes and cloudy, with thick weather. Got some of the guns from the Forth decks, in order to make off; which we commenced at the meridian - Steered E.N.E. for the Head land. At 4 P.M. finished making off: the weather cleared up, and we discovered 16 sail of Ships; Land on the beam, and a floe of ice to Leeward. Spoke the Earl of Fife of Shields, who gave us a vast of news &c. The weather all at once became particularly serene: it fell nearly calm, and we were in danger of drifting on the Lee ice. However with the assistance of our boats towing ahead, we succeeded in getting round the point. Steered nam. N.N.E. None of these ships seemed to be fishing. In fact the season seems to be drawing to a close very rapidly. At midnight sailing on the wind S.W. by W. at about the rate of 4 knots. Seals, Fulmars, Burgomasters &c. seen -

Land, and several sail of Ships in sight.
Lat. 78 ° 46. N.
Long. 5 ° 30. E.
Danger of the ice
Spoke the Fife
Sailing on the Wind.

July 1st. Light airs of wind and cloudy. Bore away. At 4h A.M. a fish was struck to windward: this was to all a very joyful circumstance, as we almost despaired of killing any more. All the boats were despatched immediately, and in a very short time the was dead - From the mast head, the Head Land was very visible: I could also destinguish the ice stretching from that Land, to the South-westward: The outside of this ice was jagged; the ice was the solid Barrier of Ice which extends to the North Pole. Thus, it would appear, that we could penetrate but 12 miles or so, farther N. It would be impossible to proceede more to the N. this year - When Lord Mulgrave was on his voyage of discovery towards the North Pole, he advanced about 50 or 60 miles further; but this was under much more favourable circumstances. From this it must appear that the ice varies its direction very much in different years. This change of direction is entirely owing to the winds. Heavy Southerly Gales after Winter, must render the extremity of the ice jagged: The wind then coming from the North. Westward will force this jagged Ice from the Solid Ice, and in this manner, opens the country more or less, according to the prevalency and strength of these winds. A N.W. wind therefore

Wind S.E -
No. 23.
John Dunbar.

- S. / -
Head land made from. Mast h.d.
Owing to that Barrier of ice wh extends to N. Pole.
Impossibility of proceeding farther. Vast.
Variable direction of the ice.
Occasioned by the direction of Winds -
N.W. wind opens the country vast.

Lat. 79° 56 N
Long 0° 16 E.
Ice close in with the land.
Extent of it &c.
Piece of Fir found supposed to come from Siberia or Archangel—
Got the Whale-longing and flinched her—
Excellence of the Blubber.
Made sail to work off Ice &c.
Colour of the Sea—
Wind. Vari.
Wind variable Stemmell of Whitby in sight. Bore away from us.
Lat. 79° 40 N
Long. 0° 30 E.
Capt Johnston onboard.
News of the enemy being up. Ice—
Gale of wind coming on and during the Ice—
Wind S.S.W—
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Wind. variable from S.W to W—
Extreme clearness of the atmosphere at times—

must render the ice more accessable on account in the first place, of the direction of it being, N.E. & S.W. as to; this ice at its extremity being packed, by S.E. wind, will drive off, to the S.E. ward. Last night there appeared to be some streams of packed ice between our ship and Charles Island, from the North Foreland to Cape Litae; N.W. wind must therefore have prevailed here whilst we had them from the S.S.E. & S.W— I picked up a piece of Fir wood to day. It would appear that this wood must come floating from Archangel or Liberia, It was rendered very hard, excepting the outside, which of course must be soft, on account of its being in the water so long— It was about 3 feet long; 1 foot in circumference; had never been chopped, or cut. At 8 A.M. got the fifth Harpoon, when it fell calm. She appeared to be an old one, and had been struck before. Her blubber cut excellently well. Flenched her, and got all right again— Made Sail. Backed down into the Ice &c. & backed again; stood to the Southward. It now came on intolerably thick and continued so throughout the rest of the day. At midnight it fell calm— In the morning the sea was of a dark sky blue, and by night had turned to a muddy light green— Therm. 32° Seals nedding in abundance— Gulmars, Puffins and Loons seen—

July 2nd. A continuance of uncommon thick weather, with light breezes of wind. Commenced getting up some of our flying sails. At about 7 A.M. it cleared up more, and we descried the Stemmell of Whitby leaving us for us; upon which we hove too. It however soon came on unfortunately thick again: fired two of the great guns, in order for her to know where we were. At 11 A.M. it cleared up, she found us, and came down to our weather quarter— Capt Johnston came on board (Malemoking as called on Greenland), and gave us plenty of news. From him we understood that two American Frigates were in Greenland! Most likely these Frigates are mistaken, there being two English there. At noon bore away round a point of ice, and hauled our wind again. At 5 P.M. a heavy gale of wind came on, which set the pack ice driving to the Eastward. The usual thick weather accompanied this gale. Made all snug. Water changed its colour to day from Blue to green. Therm. 30°. Rigging all frozen. Gulmars seen. Several sail in sight, Elephant & Perseverance amongst them—

July 3rd. A continuance of the gale all day, with snow; but in general tolerably clear. Extreme clear weather seems to be peculiar in Greenland. When clear at all, it is very clear; so that ships are visible at the horizon, until just the tops of their masts are seen, a distance of 25 miles, or so. Several ships bearing to windward with us, to the Westward, Stand-

Lat. 79° 23'. N.
Long. 5°. 05'. E-
Wind variable-

Wind. West-
Working to windward amongst Pack Ice-
Lat- 79°. 55. N
Long. 2°. 30. E.
At 9. P. M.
Tacked and stood to the southw.-

Wind Southerly.
Out in clear water.
Lat. 79°. 30'. N.
Long. 5°. 35. E.
Made off. for under the lee of a flaw of ice.

Gale at South
Near the Land-
Supposed to be Magdalena Bay-
Lat. 79°. 42. N.
Long 8°. 15. E-
At appearance-

- Bearing &c-
Arrived in company with us -

Ran down under another stream of Packed ice.
Lat 79°. 53. N.
Long. 8°. 15. E-
Midnight. Observ.

ing about 2 hours on each tack, but making the longest reaches to the Southward. Being Sunday performed Divine Service. No Whales seen- Sea of a dark Sky blue colour. Therm- 35°- Fulmars seen -

July 4th- Fresh breezes and very cloudy weather- Worked about 40 miles in amongst packed ice to the Westward. The Arrowsmith in Perseverance kept company with us for a considerable distance, but by a thick fog they lost sight of us. The wind was very variable, varying 4 points. At 9 P. M. (on coming (as we supposed) to the Extremity of this very deep bight, being very dark & small packed Floes of ice, we stood again to the Eastward; the wind came round to the S.S.E. For these last several days the wind had constantly come round to the Southward at night. Quite moderate winds & weather at latter part of the day. Therm 32°- Fulmars seen- Sea of a clear light green colour -

July 5th Fresh breezes and moderate weather. Continued our course for the clear water: At 9 A. M- considered ourselves entirely out from the ice, and therefore bore away N. N. E. At 8 handed the wind, round a flaw of ice to the Southward; and when clear, wore and stood on the Larboard tack, to get shelter as a strong Gale of wind had every appearance of coming on. Made off the last fish which filled 24 casks; being almost 13 tons. Therm 33°. Fulmars seen

July 6th. Had gale of wind, and very serene weather. When the fog cleared up, it discovered the land to be much nearer than we supposed. The land we had some difficulty of ascertaining. The charts of this land certainly are erroneous. We had an excellent observation on the Sun, which gave us our Latitude with the greatest precision; and then by reference to the chart; it would appear that we were to the Northward of Magdalena Bay. The coast was evidently the same. The Bay was visible to the Southward. It was the most rugged and barren, horrible coast we ever saw. Immense deep vales, almost filled up with snow*. Thousands of eminences rocks and ridges above, and on the mountains which seemed towering to the skies. The North end bore East due. At 8 A.M. The Arrowsmith was in co- with us, split his main topsail. Still under the lee of the Flaw of ice; but it seemed breaking up. It now blew tremendously hard — The ice (4 P.M) was driving round to the N.E. ward very rapidly; Made more sail. At 8 P.M. it came on very thick. Ran down under the lee of another stream of ice, which was part of the ice-stream we just had left. Kept dodging under it. The Arrowsmith was then out of sight, owing to the thick weather. Blowing very heavy. Therm 33°- Fulmars &c. &c.

* These Valleys which were now visible, filled up with snow, or ice, as I suspect, are those Ice Bays mentioned by Lord Mulgrave in Lat. 79. 44. Bay J. C.

Remarks &c. onboard the Esk in the Frozen Ocean—

Gale at S.W. & Thr variable.

Bore away and hauled up. W— Lat. 80° 24' N Long. 10 ° 10'. E—

Danger & the Fleet Weathers—

Cleared up and an Situation discovered

Stood in for the Land.

Bearing of the islands—

Midnight obs. Lat. 80 ° 12. N Long. 10 ° 20. E—

Icebergs seen

Wind North— Lat. 80 ° 10. Obs. Long. 9 ° 45. E—

Bearings of Land &c—

Mal Smoking &c—

Much ice broken up since the 1st inst

Quantity of the ice on 1st July.

July 1st Blowing tremendously hard, with an impenetrable thick Fog— the Sea to windward breaking up fast, but the ice ahead still kept mostly— Determined to stay yet under it— However at 2 P.M. as the Leads much we must be driving in amongst the north west islands & rocks, which were, as I may justly say, made & pleated enough for a thief to seek relief under in such a gale as this. It was therefore determined on to run to the Westward as well as we could. After passing two snowy Streams, and Bratt ice (having been away) with difficulty; and on account of the thick weather, which rendered our situation particularly unsafe. We hauled up to the Westward, and lost sight of the Dimmell— She fired guns, which we respectively answered, in order to keep company. After beating about them on this tack, with an immense high Sea; it slacked off, & we saw a vast of loose washed ice. A Stream of packed ice to Leeward; the Dimmell on the weather quarter; and the Land. This intermission of a clear weather, was very fortunate to us. At once we knew our situation. We were not so near the Islands as we had supposed: But we were on a Lee pack of ice, and in amongst Bratt ice. We had clear weather for the rest of this day, excepting now & then a little thick. We We backed and Stood well in with the Land. Being so completely thrown out of all reckoning, we were almost at a loss to know which were Islands were. On coming closer we made them out. Hackluits Hd Land bore S.W. and the extremity of Keen Dean Land bore S.E. by E. An observation of ☉ at midnight we found ourselves correct. This Land is like the generality of Spitzbergen immensely high. As we came very close to it, several beautiful Icebergs were visible, which were Valuable filled up with ice. A great quantity of snow had left the mountains, being the latter end of the season: altogether it formed a most picturesque scene. On coming closer, we had Less wind & that off the Land. At midnight tacked + Then &c Fulmars & Bungomasters seen—

July 2d The gale now moderated, and tolerable clear weather ensued. The wind came fair, and we were quite satisfied. Keeper Standing in with the Land under Meridian. Tacked. Clarkes cliff. bore S.W.b.S. We had a fine view of the land from Hackluits Hd Land to Clarkes cliff, and from thence to the N.E. ward Land was distinguishable, which I supposed was Keen Field. Hauled to windward at some hearing ice sheering N.W. & S.E— At 2 P.M. Capn Johnstone of the Dimmell came onboard, Malemsings and stated the rest of the day. Delightfull fine clear weather. At midnight a Thick fog under the Land, but this being its summit was distinctly visible. Such our getting so far North this time, the ice must have been much broken up since the 1st inst, when we were in Lat. 79°. 51'. The ice was at that time clearly seen sheering from Hackluits Hd to the W.S.W, and then going to the S.W. From our being able to penetrate so far north, we naturally supposed that many

+ Got Soundings in 70 fathoms. Soft clay & rocks— Mr Sykes lat. 81 — &c

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Navigation along the ice towards the N. Pole.

Midnight Obs.
Lat. 79° 55. N.
Long. 5 30. E.
Sailing along the Ice
Wind South.
Fine views of the Land.
Lat. 79 30. Obs.
Long. 5 0 E
Wind S.S.W.
Stood in for the Ice.
Wind S.S.W.
Made the Ice.
Lat. 79° 27. N.
Long. 5 30. E.
Bad state of our Compasses.
Land in sight
Sent in pursuit of a White Whale & Ice.
Wind N.E.
Course N.W.
Lat. 79 04. N
Long. 4 30. E.
Wind S.S.E.
& Ice
Packed.

can might this year be carried on to an immense distance towards the North Pole. We have been within about 10 miles as far as Lord Mulgrave went. and when we were there, no ice to the Northward was to be seen; not even the blink; except a small pack just to Leeward of us, which had drifted from the Northward. What a pleasure would it have been for us to make some as far as the ice would have permitted us! had it not been inexpedient to our orders we would have performed it. We now intend if possible to take along the ice for a long way to the S.W. At midnight for an observation. Therm 38° Fulmars, & Coal

July 9th Charming fine weather. At 3 A.M. it came on to blow very hard, but by 9 it entirely subsided, and almost fell calm. We had now a beautiful view of the land; the N. Foreland, Hakluyt Id & the seven Islands all distinctly to be seen. The Aimwell in company standing to the S.W. ward. At 3 P.M. went onboard the Aimwell, & we continued until night; when a fresh breeze sprung up; but that wind was a foul one. Stood in for the ice. Therm at noon 40 - at night 35° Kittywakes, Dusky & fulmars seen.

July 10th. Fresh breezes and cloudy weather, but no Fog. At 5 A.M. fell in with a few sheets of ice. Tacked & stood out. Ice. Performed Divine service. after which struck less wind, which was succeeded by a calm near midnight. In the afternoon had considerable trouble in working to windward of a pack of ice. Our Ship on account of the cutlead keel of the wind, makes much less way, than otherwise. Our Compasses in a most terrible state for travelling: often differing 8 points or more. Indeed this variation of compasses is in general the case in so high a northern latitude. The magnetic dip being about 80°. A large extent of land, ice in sight; the Isles of Ice. At midnight calm, and in great hopes it would bring about a change of wind. Sent a boat in search of a White Whale which was seen, which was pursued 4 hours: but ineffectually. Therm 35° Fulmars. Kittywakes and Gulls seen. Sea of a light green colour.

July 11th Light airs and cloudy weather; a fine fog which continued throughout the day. Wind came about, and we stood to the S.W. met with some pieces of packed ice, upon which we sometimes were obliged to haul more to the eastward. Ship going in general at about the rate of 3 knots per hour. Towards midnight calm. Aimwell not in sight, owing to the fog. Therm 33° Fulmars & gulls seen.

July 12th Early in the morning a fresh breeze sprung up from the S.W. It is astonishing what an uncommon number of winds from the Southward we have had: it is rather an unfortunate thing, as we are so far North, and want to get along the ice. Having stood a considerable distance to the westward, amongst ice, we backed

Lat. 73°. 00 N
Long. 6°. 00 E.

came in with the land

and stood in towards land. It was many returns of ice obstructed our passage thither. but however it was clear, and therefore not much danger was to be apprended. At 2 P.M. we had come in with the land, and ice we were not more, or rather less than a mile from rugged Rock. A great quantity of packed ice seemed to have been driven and from Southward to Eastward. Having come in with 12 fathoms on the

Got Soundings.

reefs, we hope about. We had suddenly shoaled our water from 14 fms to 12. the bottom appeared to be sharp pointed coral rock. the lead was very much cut and a vast quantity of red rock was hauled up. We threw our fishing lines out, but caught nothing; a quantity of sea weed was brought up, some of which I have preserved. being now so near the land I had a good opportunity of seeing it well. The summit of this land which is about a mile & a half in height, was covered in clouds. Directly opposite us, in one of the most extraordinary natural

Fished over

Pyramidal Mountain

phenomena, that I believe ever existed. This mountain gradually tapers until it reaches the top, in regular steps. We had a fine view of the Seven Hills, we have left above 7 miles on account of clouds. Capt. Lovetts some years ago re-

ancient hut seen

mained here; he then discovered a large hut which had been built by some Russians, who had been transported here for some misdemeanor. In it he found some flour, meal and other necessaries. The men were all dead. To day we saw the very same hut, apparently in good condition! It was a square one; we could distinctly discern the coarse yarn & chimney. It stood on a small circular matter the most

Did not land &c.

part of the land. However we did not land; we could not I suppose, but for what reason I know not. A better opportunity, we could not have had ——. The water over these rocks, was of a beautiful green colour ——

Other objects observed.

Several large Icebergs came up close to the ship. At this time was sailing to the South Eastward. In about an hour, the Mermaid came up with us. We threw out grapnels and sounded, and we both made sail to the eastward again. At this time came on thick. At midnight perfect

Calm.

calm. — Therm. 35°. Barometer, Fahrenheit, Looms, Daylight, and a land bird seen.

Wind N.W. & Var.

Must be to the Southd.

July 13th. A light air breeze sprung up, and we shaped our course to the South Westward; but we was not completely beyond us & the Southward, & for what we were able to see, we must be in a very dangerous situation. cannot get to the Southward. How advantageous shall we reach Clear England? An immense distance from it as yet and no apparent chance of getting clear. The season far advanced, and

Remarks &c. onboard the Esk in the Frozen Ocean.

Lat. obs. 75° 57' N.
Long. 7° 30' E.

Sun Shone & Towed.

Very thick weather.

Seen against a Flaw of Ice.

Boyle Horn Seen

Wind S.S.W.

Stood in for Cape Lisne

Since shall list

Lat. 75 " 47 N
Long 6 " 55 E.

Wind Stark

Wind N.N.W.
Fell in with heavy ice.

Bearings of the Land Seen

Lat. 75 " 05 N
Long 9 " 20 E.

Breeze of the Land.

Sail in sight

Mice hunting seen

The Ships in company with us beat the Dimmet. Never mind Sailors must never be down hearted. We shall get clear one time or other ——. At meridian a fresh quantity of hearing we all manned our boats and towed. The Middle Watch in sight bearing S.E. It continued calm, with a few intermittions of light airs from all parts of the Compass until midnight. In the ebening it came on, with the thickest weather, I think, I have ever seen in Greenland; and in consequence of it we ran foul of a Flaw of ice; however no injury was sustained; and by the end of Boats towing the weather cleared & We fired guns as usual for the Dimmet to keep company and also blew the Boyle Horn. I was surprized to hear what an uncommon echo there was; this I suppose was owing to the Fog. Therm. to day at 36°. Loons, Roaches & Fulmars seen.

July 14th Early in the morning a fresh breeze sprung up but as outside a foul one. Stood in for Cape Lisne, which we made in about 4 hours. Then kept standing about on Tacks on each tack, until it fell calm in the afternoon. Here we met with an immense number of a sort of Sea fly: Evidently a small shell fish of a most peculiar & delicate texture; being of a beautiful purple colour all its fins and its body of a blue colour. It was very small, and of a round figure. The water was here of a fine light blue colour. At midnight we had a light air from the Northward. Therm. 33°. Saw cold keeping of the ships all frozen. Saw immense Leads of Ice & Bushes. two white Gulls

July 15th Light airs and thick fog. Passed a vast of heavy land ice to the Westward. Very warm. Therm. up at 43°. A fresh breeze flying from the S.W. and very appearance of wind from that quarter. At 3 P.M. it cleared up for about ½ an hour, and Cape Lisne bore N.N.E. distant 7 leagues. Passed square floes of ice. The ship going at about the rate of 1 or 2 knots per hour. Lost sight of the Dimmet towards evening it cleared up, & fell calm: and in [illegible] or two hours afterwards a gentle breeze sprung up off the land. Several sail in sight: one of them we suspected to be a ship of war. Standing on the other tack. Continued our course along the land: and at midnight began to skip the N. Foreland. The S. End of Prince Charles Island bearing E.½.S. dist 8 leagues. Observing fine weather. My Chief amusement now was catching Mice. The whole ship was swarmed with these troublesome vermin. Also rats. Indeed I could not sleep a night without having these creatures running all over me. My

Remarks onboard the Esk &c. in the Larger Ocean

S. Foreland bea. S.b.E. 8 leag.

face & every where else. At midnight the wind veered inclined to Southerly — Seahorses — Duffeys. Looms — Seals & Fulmars &c —

Wind came round. Calm. Towed from the ice

July 16th Delightfull weather. Quite clear, and not much ice to intercept us. Wind came round to the Southward, & from thence to the Westward. At noon saw Shilk & calm. Towards night saw 2 boats & towed thro' some very rank packed ice. This ice when it was blowing at all was forced into a sea. Heavy; but on its falling calm is parted and the different pieces laid very much asunder. It would appear that all this ice possessed Electricity; and by the positive & negative Electricity acting on one another they form a peak. When it blows, loose matt. ice combines and forms Streams &c. but when it falls calm, & the ice is at liberty, the Electricity of the same nature cumming into contact, they mutually part and thus render the ice rank & thick — Towards the latter end of the day we had for the most part light airs and clear weather. Saw sail none in sight. Sick on the Larboard tack — Noon 44° — Seals, Seahorses, Ducks, Duffeys, Loons & Fulmars &c —

Lat. 77° 47' N. Lon. 8° 45' E. Remarks on the Ice &c

July 17th A fresh breeze springing up this morning, and quite fair, we bore away for England. How pleasant the thought! after having been confined in a dreary place like this. May prosperous winds attend our back, and waft us speedily to our home. Spoke the St. Andrew, who gave us a great deal of news, concerning the departure of some of our friends to Britain Seas. I observed a Fog Bucker, as it is called, or an appearance during the fog, similar to a rain bow — The Britania & Manchester in company with us all day. Passed through a Stream or two of washed ice. Ice continued also came along the edge of the ice to the S.W. — At midnight Hawes Just Shot going at the rate of 6 & 7 knots per hour — Noon 35° Fair, Heavy mist & Fulmars &c

Wind N. Bore away for England. Spoke the St. Andrew — Lat. 76° 53' N. Lon 8° 45 — Proceeding along the Ice —

July 18th. Fresh breezes and cloudy, but delightfull weather. At 4 P.M. saw three sail — hove in sight, which we supposed to be Men of War — they were standing in to the eastward — Manchester & Britania hove in company about 3 miles to the Southward of us — at 8 P.M. called all hands and set a watch to take down the Hawsers — Hoisted Sails & hauled and performed many similar Jobs necessary — At meridian it fell nearly calm & remained so for the rest of the day. Spoke the Manchester & Britania; they gave us the news concerning the Fishery — The former said he had not seen fish for 10 days, and knew of no that which had — The

Wind N. 2 Large sail a sight

Lat. 75° 04' N. Lon 9° 24 E. Spoke the Ships in company with us —

Remarks onboard the Esk on her passage to England

News from the Britannia—

Wind Variable—

Mid. Noon Lat.d 74° 49' N Long. 9° 50' E. Wind S.W. & variable—

Wind Var-

Lat. 74° 23' N Long. 9° 16' E.

Fell in with ice

Fell in with more loose ice

Wind North.

Wind N.W.

Lat. 72° 34' N Long. 7° 12' E. Wind W.N.W.

Wind West.

Lat. 70° 57' N Long. 9° 00' E. Luffboden Mendes S.E. dist. 130 miles

latter stated his having been amongst multitudes of Whales— the Master himself was in pursuit of one on Sunday last (Yesterday). According to his account the Whales were running very fast to the westward towards the ice. He mentioned the various ships which had gone home All the ships seem to be uncommonly well fished— Therm. 36° Sinners, & Fulmars seen—

July 19th A breeze sprung up— directly contrary— Began running to windward— Pleasant cheerly weather— Manchester & Britannia in company— In the afternoon the capt & the two mates came onboard the Esk, and remained most of the day. At midnight rain and light breezes of wind. Tacked and stood on to the westward— Therm 40°— Arctic Gulls, Sinners & Fulmars seen— Sea of a clear Green colour—

July 20th Light breezes of wind and rainy weather— Continued standing on to the westward, until she fell off to N.W. when we tacked— No ice was then in sight. At meridian a fresh breeze sprung up quite fair for us, and we crowded all the sail we could— To day we delivered our instructions to the Manchester & Britannia— they having placed themselves under our convoy. Shaped our course S.W. and carried the blink of the ice on the starboard beam. At 7 P.M. we passed thro' a loose stream of ice. A strange sail hove in sight to Leeward, appeared a Whaler— At 9 P.M. passed thro another Stream of loose heavy ice: I hope this will be the last ice we shall fall in with on the passage— For the rest of the day we had fresh breezes and fair weather. The Ship going at the rate of about 7 or 8 knots per hour— Therm 40°— Fulmars, Sinners & Arctic Gulls (by seamen called Boatswains) seen—

July 21st Fresh breezes and cloudy weather— the wind veered South indeed to westward— Continued our course S.W. The Britannia & Manchester in company. Wind freshened, but veered— therefore took in studdingsails. Man stove hauled on our proper best— Nothing particular occurred during the remainder of this day. Therm 42°— Fulmars & Arctic Gulls seen—

July 22nd Fresh breezes and cloudy weather: the wind veered rather— Steered S.W. close hauled— At meridian fine clear weather, but cloudy— Manchester and Britannia in company— At 4 P.M. a strange sail hove in sight: we supposed this strange sail to be the ship, we saw on the 20th bore to Leeward— She then appeared to be steering for the stream of ice— We continued in sight of her until for

Remarks onboard the Ek on her passage to England.

Course. &c.

Wind Calm

Fell in with Swds fishg Vessl S.E.

Wind S.E.

Variable sailed for Ships as seen

Lat. 79°.44.N
Long 8°.00.E.

Wind S.S.E.

Obsd.

Wind S.b.E.

Tack'd Ship

Archangelmen in sight.

Lat. 76°.45
Long 6°.06.E.

Wind W.S.W.

Lat. 69°.59.N
Long 7°.35.E.

Near Norway

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the rest of the day. Past 8 P.M. it fell calm & remd so. In the evening we fell in with a great number of large fish with an immense fin on their backs of 6 or 8 feet long, which came to the surface of the water to take breath. These fish M. Eye onboard knew the name of them. Some said they were sword fish — Towards midnight a gentle air sprung up. Let the Steering Sails draw — Therm 46°. Fulmars and Arctic Gulls seen —

July 23rd. Fresh breezes and cloudy. All the sail we could spread. As we were now going fast, the Manchester & Britannia were fast astern so that at 9 A.M. we were obliged to sail with the Main topsail aback: brailed up: & no Studdingsail set. Yet these are two of the best sailers in Greenland. At meridian a fine wind: Manchester came up: and running away home, at the rate of 7 or 8 knots an hour. The Ships sail like in sight, on the same course as ourselves (S.W.) Towards night the wind seemed very much & it came on thick, Passed some Sea weed. Fine set to night after a day to us of about 4 months: the sun having been above the horizon all that time. A hearty swell coming from the S.West. Lufsoden Island bore E.b.S. by chart. dist 120 miles. Therm 45°. Fulmars, Arctic Gulls & Skaet seen —

July 24th. Gentle breezes & moderate weather. Am course S.W.b.W. Manchester and Britannia in company. Wind seemed inclined to come from the westward; a swell seeming to come from that quarter — Performed divine service. At meridian the ship broke off to N.W. Clear weather and the wind freshening. Tacked and stood to the Southward. At 6 P.M. a Ship sail hove in sight: She seemed running directly before the wind: and we suppose her to be bound for Archangel. At night we we flattered up a light air from the Northward, but it was of very short duration. A heavy Sea was running most of the day from the Southward, and from it, there appears to have been a very heavy Gale of wind from the Southward. At Midnight gentle breezes & cloudy. Therm 52°. Fulmars & Sea Gulls seen —

July 25th. Gentle breezes and cloudy weather. Had a very heavy swell on, which continued throughout the day. Fleet in Company, but the Britannia a long distance astern. Am course about S.W. making 2 points Leeway. At meridian Serene weather. We now suppose ourselves to be not distant from that dreadful Vortex, Maelstrom: and from our Longitude, we must be not far from the Lufsoden Islands.

Remarks onboard the Esk on her passage to England

a Strange sail in sight.

At noon moderate winds & weather - At 6 P.M. a Strange sail hove in sight about 10 miles to windward: he was running before the wind with a heavy press of canvass on. On his first perceiving us, he shortened sail, and hoisted his ensign - we hove too to speak him. As the wind lessened, he was a considerable time coming down: he could not distinguish his flag, until he was close to us. We took him at different times for a Batavian, Russian and Englishman. However that being of little consequence to us, we made signal for the convoy to close - At 11 P.M. he came up, and with a gun from the Esk, we brought him too. Sent a boat onboard him. He furnished us with little news. He was light - From Antwerp bound for Archangel. Belonged to Liverpool. His name was the Ann. He had left the Shetland Islands but 3 days. He informed us of Montesinis being in France, and expecting to be crowned King of that Nation: that Peace was already concluded on between us & the French. Buonaparte was in some island in the Mediterranean - He did not know whether our good old King was alive or not: so we will still continue to pray for him. An American Frigate had been captured by the English: what their name were, he could not tell - An english Sloop of war had been captured by the Americans: but he was also in ignorance concerning their names - Our troops were going on well in America. That Peace was to be concluded on, at the end of this month - &c. &c. &c. - He had sailed several days homeward bound. Some so lately as yesterday morning: but it was blowing a hard gale of wind, (as she expected), and therefore he could not speak them - After getting our boats onboard, we made sail again, with gentle breezes of wind - Thermr. 56° Days at 56°. Fulmars seen - A piece of wood seen & some seaweed seen - Sea of a bluish green colour -

Diffrently in his opinion what he was in

An Archangelman

His news to us & our trade.

Concerning the Americans &c.

Wind S.S.E - Lat. 61° 13'. N Long. 6 ° 21. E - Wind South -

Strange sail in sight -

July 26th. Gentle breezes and cloudy. At 4 A.M. as the Ship broke off her moor: we tacked, and the Convoy did so. We. stood - The wind seemed inclined to freshen - At meridian clear weather, with fair breezes of wind - Sargeants the evening we had thick weather and rain A heavy sea on. Manchester and Britannia in company. At 8 P.M. the Manchester made signal of a Strange sail being in sight: but we could not distinguish her: perhaps owing to the thick weather - At midnight fresh squalls of wind - Reefed topsails &c. Thermr. 56° Fulmars and Gulls the Ducks chickens seen - Piece of wood & sea weed seen -

Remarks onboard the Esk on her passage to England.

Wind S.W.

Lat. 66° 31' N
Long 3 ‥ 26 E

Wind West-

Wind Variable about W. S. W.

Wind West & Var—
Lat. de 65° ‥ 44' N
Long de 4 ‥ 00 E.

Wind S.S.E —

Wind S.E.S.
Lat. 64° ‥ 50' N
Long. 3 ‥ 30. E.

Lost the convoy this

Wind Var.
Lat. 64° ‥ 07' N
Long. 0 ‥ 30 W.

Wind South.

Thick weather.

Wind N.W.
Lat. 62° ‥ 50' N
Long. 0 ‥ 36 E.

July 27th Fresh breezes of wind, and thick disagreeable weather — At 9 A.M. as the ship lyed one tack Wt. N.W. We tackt. a heavy head sea on, which continued throughout the Day. At meridian more wind with Wet thick weather. Convoy on comp. Britannia some distance ahead. During these last 24 hours we have got well to the westward, and therefore can now well afford a westerly wind. — In the afternoon, took in another reef of the main topsail & fore — For the remainder of the day, we had thick foggy weather, and rather less wind at midnight. — Therm. 54° — Fulmars, Sea Gulls & Kittywakes seen — Also a good deal of sea weed seen —

July 28th Light breezes of wind, which subsided into a Calm at 9 A.M. Hoys for the most part. A heavy swell on — At meridian calm also with very thick weather. — In the evening a breeze of wind sprung up from S.W. At this time a sail came on from the northward: It came on, several times thick from the leeward quarter &c. From this I rather suspected a fair wind. At midnight a steady breeze & rather better. — Therm. 56° — Fulmars seen —

July 29th Fresh, and pretty fair gales of wind, with drizzly weather — But our fair wind could last to no longer than noon, when it became almost right aft. During 9 and 10 o'clock this morning we lay going 8 or 9 miles on the bowline. Manchester & Britannia in comp. — In the afternoon it came on immoderately thick & We lost sight of the convoy. The wind coming round to the westward, or towards it, and light airs at 9 P.M. From the badness of the weather, we think it probable we have lost the convoy — Therm. 55° — Fulmars seen

July 30th Light & variable winds — At 2 A.M. light — Nice a continuance of uncommon thick weather — The Britannia in the morning was seen at a considerable distance to windward. Surely they must have seen the Esk: Still they never bore down for us — At meridian a pretty breeze springing up, and was tolerably fair for an hour or so, when it scanted us — In the evening, we had the thickest weather we have had during the whole voyage; being scarcely able to see twice the length of the ship — Therm. 57° — Fulmars, Arctic Gulls, and Jaeger gulls seen — Sea of a N. blue colour —

July 31st Moderate breezes of wind, with rain, and thick weather — At 2 A.M. it fell calm, and at 3 A.M. a breeze of wind sprung up, which soon became fair. It increased to a fresh gale by 5 A.M. when we reefed topsails. At this time the Ship was going 12 knots per hour — But fine weather did not last long: for by

Remarks onboard the Esk on her passage to England—

Made more sail — Wind N.N.W.

Wind S&E.

Lat = 61° 26'.
Dist. all o —
Long. 0° 7' E.

Sea of a very light blue colour — Soundings &c

Land Fall —

Tacked Ship —

More wind & — Lee way —

Wind — N.b.E. — ½

Fetlar N.N.W. 7 Leagues —

Lat. 60° 19' N
Long — 0 " 30 W.

West b South Wind.

Lat. 59° 55' N
Long. 0 " 21 W.

4 P.M. we upper our royals yards again: Out reefs: Hands employed — sailes &c. In the evening Squally weather: Gentle and moderate breezes of wind. Therm. 52°. Fulmars — Solan Geese — Arctic Gulls — Young Gulls — Brown Gulls — Duffeys — Mollusca &c seen. Sea weed seen —

August 1st Gentle winds and clear weather — In the morning the wind came round. At meridian wind variable; weather and inclinable to rain. At 4 P.M. threw all aback, and got soundings in 80 fms; Shells, White and brown specks — Wind came on very strong — Furled sailes and reefed — Two hours after got soundings again in 80 fms. Coral rock, and fine sand — One hour after that sounding again in ~~fine~~ 70 fms. Fine sand. — Spoke the Manchester, who thought we were on the east side of the Shetland Islands, as did ourselves. Soon after we got soundings in 60 fms. Shells &c. At 9 P.M. Some land ~~——~~ in sight, in the N.W. distant about 7 Leagues — Made more sail, the wind having moderated. This land we supposed to have been the mountains between Hadswick & Scousick — The wind rather scanting on the tacks. At midnight very dark, with hazy thick weather. Therm. 57° — Fulmars — Solan Geese — Duffeys — Willocks and Arctic Gulls seen — Sea where the Soundings were of a light blue colour —

August 2nd Strong winds and cloudy weather — At day break 5 Sail hove in sight — Two in the Northward — Manchester left us, and made the best of her way for Bressa Sound. At 5 A.M. some land which we supposed to be the Island of Fetlar, bore N.N.W. distant about 7 Leagues — Continued our track to the southward — At meridian fine clear weather, with light breezes of wind. At 3 P.M. finding the ship to break off to S.E. we tacked & stood to the westward — The wind came down almost an end; we tacked at 10 P.M. — Rainy weather, with fresh breezes of wind — Therm. 58° — Young gulls seen, and Mackarel caught. Much sea weed seen — Some mollusca &c seen —

August 3rd — Rainy weather and the winds rather variable: continued working to windward, about an hour on each tack — At meridian fine serene weather — A Brig hove in sight, running down to Leeward. Spoke her, but the people us not a word of news — All the rest of the day was particularly beautiful, with light breezes of wind, which towards midnight became tolerable fair.

Remarks onboard the Est on her passage to England —

Wind N.W. & N.W.

with showers of rain. Therm 60° — Young Gulls seen — Dog Fish &c
Makerell caught. Abundance of all sorts of Sea weed seen

Wind West.

Lat. 58°. 53' N
Long. 1°. 21. E.

Fishermen in sight

August 4th. Fresh breezes of wind and dodgy, with some rain early in the morning. At the time got topsail the wind veered round more to South: but at meridian it still kept about West. At this time we had most charming weather, with light breezes of wind: the Ship going about 4 knots. In the afternoon, a strange sail hove in sight, apparently bound for Archangel. We fell in with 18 sail of fishing smacks: but the wind accompanying us, at 6 P.M. we tacked, and stood in for the Scotch coast. The wind for the rest of the day, was variable — At midnight we tacked again — Wind inclined to freshen — Therm. 60° — Solan Geese, Young Gulls, Porpoises, and Makarelle seen — Much sea weed seen

Wind variable about SSW.

Lat. 58°. 31' N
Long. 0°. 42'. E.

Fishermen in boats in sight —

August 5th. Stong breezes of wind, with rain. At 3 A.M. tacked. Towards mid-day it cleared up. In the afternoon we fell in with the Flemish fishing boats. One of them sailed directly under our Lee. We waved him, which he attended. In the evening charming fine weather; still blowing very fresh, but much less sea on — Caught an astonishing number of Makarelle. At night we observed these fishermen casting their nets: this we hope to be a sign of more moderate wind. At midnight tacked ship — Wind inclined to the North — Therm. 59° — Solan Geese and Young Gulls seen —

Wind N.W.

August 6th A beautiful fresh fair wind rate with the sun — which we hope to turn to good advantage. We became now particularly anxious ~~now~~, as the Est would have her last opportunity for getting into the harbour on Sunday night. Should this propitious breeze attend us a day or two, no doubt but we shall reach ~~the~~ Firth roads in that time. — At 3 A.M. a schooner hove in sight to windward: she ran down to us, and we spoke him — He was a Scotsman, from Gothenburg bound for — —. Loaden with deals — Had no news with him — Enquired concerning some Whalers &c — sailed — Made all the sail we could — A brig to Leeward on the same tack as ourselves — At meridian fresh breezes of wind, with some rain — Observed our Lat. by D.R. & dist. 49 miles —. Made sail down into the Firth of Forth — All the afternoon most charming fine weather — At 6 P.M. saw the land, which we supposed to be about Aberdeen. At night saw some

Spoke a Schooner

Lat. 57°. 18' N
Long. 2°. 18. W

Land. in sight.

Remarks onboard the Est'on her passage to England

Lat. by all of Polar Star = 56°.. 41'. N

stars for the first we had seen on the passage. No doubt but stars were to have been seen before, but on account of the dismall weather which we have had almost all our passage home. However I am sure that they are quite a strange phenomena to us, who have not seen any for some months. We found our latitude by the Polar one as noted in the margin. The night was beautifully serene, and the pleasantest we have spent for some time, having a fair wind. The ocean was luminous, but not in a great degree. At midnight less wind. Therm 59°. Solan Geese and Gulls seen.

Wind SSW.

August 7th. A Foul wind again, and I fear we shall not reach home these Springs. Several coasters in sight. At 6 A.M. Land was seen. The Cheviot Hills and St. Abbs H^d bearing N.W. deff about 25 miles. Continued our Course to the Eastw^d until noon when we tacked. A most furious Gale then came on, which occasioned us to reduce our Sail &c. But as we were on a lee shore, we did not like a very heavy sea. Towards the evening the wind subsided, and charming weather succeeded. We tacked into Berwick Bay, until we found the wind veered us: we then tacked. We did not find our latitude quite so favourable to night, as we had, with a fore the Ship scarcely lying South. A fair wind was at this time particularly desireable, as we were on a very dangerous coast. The Staple and Farn Islands presented us convenient so near for Shore as to form the best of the breeze. We were obliged to give these Islands a wide berth, as reefs of rocks lay off each Island. We did not come within 6 miles of the lights, which were intermitting; shewing themselves but once or twice in a minute. At midnight it was moderate & calm. This giving a favourable day for the first time no fire was lighted in the Cabin. Fires were obliged to be kept burning, on account of the Ships decks being so very damp. Therm. 59°. Solan Geese and Gulls seen.

Lat. by alt. of the Polar Star = 55°.. 50'. N.

Wind W.S.W.

August 8th. Gentle breezes of wind and clear weather. At 4 A.M. the Staples and Farn lighthouses bore at W.N.W. Continued standing out towards sea. Our Ship now sails rather badly, owing to the loss of her fish. On that account therefore, we were obliged to take in the main topsail &c. in order to balance the small quantity of sail ahead. This considerably retarded our progress. At 9 A.M. we tacked, and stood to the westward. At noon we saw the Coquet Island; and at 2 P.M. at

Lat. 55°.. 31' N
Long. 1.. 8 W.

Wind. West.

she fell off considerably we tackd. She then layed S.W. good. The Land which we now saw, was very high, and veined & capped with snow— What a difference between the its appearance, and that of the bleak, barren Shetlands &c! But the latter most likely, I shall never revisit again, & I will not complain. I have been most thoroughly pleased with my voyage, although it may be no matt. to the eyes of one that would not have been undertaken, by a person who expects to immediately depart for the East Indies— All the afternoon we had fresh breezes & thick, but a disagreable h.d sea on. At night the said Satellite at about 8 P.M. we saw Dunnaith lighthouse, bearing N.N.W. dist. 15 miles— Continued standing to the S.S.W. ward— A most charming night— At midnight saw the Yorkshire land, which we supposed to be Flamboro Head— Therm. 58°. Land bids fair—

In with the Land—

Wind W.

Made land again

Wind W.N.W.

August 9th.— Fresh breezes and serene weather. Got soundings in 26 fms— as we were now close in with the land, and had not fair to run before we should arrive at Whitby, we said under easy sail (three Topsails and fk), that we might not reach the roads before day break— Continued sounding all the way. At 1 A.M. we arrived in Sandsend roads. We were under the necessity of keeping a continual fire of the great guns, in order to raise our Pilots. at Whitby— At 3 A.M. they came onboard— At noon we had fresh breezes of wind with rain— As we had now shifted considerably to the southward, how Whitby lay, by the flood tide, we tacked her up to windward, with Sandsend boats and brought her up— Landed in safety—

Wind W.W.

Lat. 54°.28'
Lon. 0..31.

Wind W.S.W.

Nothing particular occurred onboard, untill the 13 Inst. when we set sail under easy sail with the flood tide, and came into the harbour— Thus ends my Journal of a pleasant voyage, with thanks to Almighty God, for his continual protection, thro' all my perils and dangers during these last four months; after having subjected ourselves to have run over about 20.000 miles— Amen—

The Esk boiled 193 tons of Oil, selling at 32. per ton— £

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Appendix

To the foregoing Journal,

of a voyage to Spitzbergen

in the Ship Esk of Whitby.

Performed in the Year

1814.

Charles Stewart.

Meteorological Journal, kept onboard the Ship Esk of

D. M.	Lat.	Long	Thermr.	Winds Direction	Winds Strength	Aqueous Meteors	Color of the Sea	Birds. Animals &c. &c. &c.	Remarks. &c. &c.
Mr. 23	Whitby	Lonsdale	45°	N.W.	Moder.	Cloudy.	—	Gulls	— — — — — — — —
— 24	55°.47'	0.48 W	—	S.E.	Light.	Do	—	Do	— — — — — — — —
— 25	57..33.	0.50.	42	N.W.	Squally.		—		— — — — — — — —
— 26	58..56	0.54	40	Do	Hard Gale.	Cloudy. Rain	—	Brown Gulls.	Very strong tide.
— 27	Brassa	Sound.	—	South	Do	Do	—	Do Ravens.	— — — — — — — —
— 28	Do	Do	44	Do	Do	Do	—	Do	— — — — — — — —
— 29	Do	Do	44	Do	Do	Do	—	Do	— — — — — — — —
— 30	Do	Do	43	Do	Do	Do	—	Young. Gulls Do.	— — — — — — — —
— 31	Do	Do	—	Do	—	Misty	—	Do Small birds	— — — — — — — —
Ap. 1	Do	Do	—	Var.	Mod.	Cloudy.	—	Do Do	— — — — — — — —
— 2	Do	Do	—	N.E.	Do	Do	—	Do	— — — — — — — —
— 3	Do	Do	—	S.E.	Rain	Rain	—	— — — —	— — — — — — — —
— 4	Do	Do	45	South	Fresh	Clear.	—	Gulls &c.	Left Shetland.
— 5	62..13	0..19	48	Do	Do	Cloudy.	—	Fulmars. Crow.	— — — — — — — —
— 6	63..54	0..39.	45	S.W	Gale.	Cloudy.	—	Fulmars	— — — — — — — —
— 7	66..53	0..39.	43	S.W.	Do	Do	—	Bulfinch. Do	Entered the Frigid zone
— 8	68..39	0..40.	28	S.W.	Do	Do	—	Fulmars	— — — — — — — —
— 9	70..0	0..40.	—	Var.	Mod.	Snow. thick	—	Ice Birds. Do	Ice Blink.
— 10	71..14	2..40	6	East	Do	Rhyme from	—	— — —	Amongst Bay Ice.
— 11	71..17	E.54 E.	0°.	Do	Do	Do Thick	—	Snow Birds	— — — — — — — —
— 12	71..20	1..20.	+5.	N.E.	Do	Thick Do	—	Fulmars	— — — — — — — —
— 13	71..30	1..30	32.	SSE. Nly.	Hard Gale.	Thick Wr	—	Do.	Change of Temp. 37° in 12 hrs.
— 14	71..49.	2..24	34.	SE. Calm.	Do. Calm.	Do. Clear.	—	Bottlenoses Do	— — — — — — — —
— 15	71..46	3..00	38	E.b.N	Squally	Clear.	—	Fulmars	Ice Blink N.E.
— 16	71..48	3.28	20	E.N.E.	Mod.	Do	—	Do	Beat Gull & Blink
— 17	71..46	3.34	—	E.N.E.	Do	Do	—	Fulmars. Gull	— — — — — — — —
— 18	72..15	3..0	49	N	Calm	Fresh	Dark Green	Do	Do Saw Gull 35
— 19	72..51	4..22	19	East	Mod.	Cloudy	—	Fulm. Seals	Beat Gull Snow
— 20	72..46	8..30	10	Do	Gale	Do	—	Fulmars. Seals	— — — — — — — —
— 21	72..20	11..21	20	Do	Squally	Do	—	Do	— — — — — — — —
— 22	73..29	12..30	22	Do	Do	Do	—	Do. Crows	— — — — — — — —
— 23	73..55	13 24	—	Var	Var	Small Sno	—	Gulls &c.	— — — — — — — —
— 24	74..0	14..20	24	Calm	Light	Clear	—	Fulmars Do.	Do.
— 25	76..10	13..03	24	East	Mod.	Do	—	Fulmars Do	Saw Spitzbergen.
— 26	76..54	13..0	15	N.Nw	Fresh	Cloudy	—	Do Do.	Ice Hr. & Thick
— 27	76..54	12..0	15	N.b	Do.	Do	—	Do. Gulls	Whales Seen
— 28	75..13	12..18	15	N.N.E	Mod.	Thick	—	Do.	— — — — — — — —
— 29	77..36	7..0	30	S.S.W	Fresh	Cloudy	—	Whales Do	Moored to Ice.
— 30	77..45	6..4	—	SW	Do.	Do	—	Do Do	Enclosed by Ice.

Whitby, on a Greenland Whale Fishing Voyage. 1814.

Old Dartmouth

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